

The BEACON

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Upcoming election inspires SG presidential debate

Electronic election to be held April 21 and 22

BY KRISTIN KILE
Beacon News Editor

For the first time in recent history, Student Government (SG) sponsored a public debate between the three candidates for SG President. Juniors, John McClave and Andrew Steinberg, and sophomore, Jenna Strzelecki are vying for the top spot to head SG for the next year.

Dr. Bradford Kinney, communications studies professor, moderated the hour-long debate in the Rifkin Cafe on the first floor of the Henry Student Center. Candidates were allowed two minute responses to each question and a one-minute follow up if they chose. A total of 22 questions were covered in the hour, which translated to fewer than three-minutes per question.

One question focused on fact

that many students on campus seem to have an unfavorable view of SG. Candidates were asked if they thought this was true and how they would create a positive image for SG.

All three candidates agreed that the student body does not know what exactly SG does. Steinberg noted most students view SG as closed and "cliquey" and that having more representation from SG could change that.

"It's all about interaction, whether in Student Government, outside of Student Government. If you have Student Government representatives representing the Student Government at these events you're going to have people come in contact with them," said Steinberg.

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The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Dr. Bradford Kinney, moderator of the debate, gives SG presidential candidates, John McClave, Andrew Steinberg, and Jenna Strzelecki the rules of how the debate will work on Thursday night.

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to offer 2005 commencement address

BY JULIE MELF
Beacon Asst. News Editor

It's official: attorney, author, environmental activist, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. will serve as the 2005 Wilkes University commencement speaker on May 21.

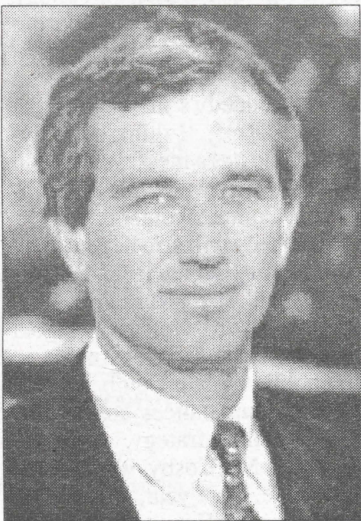
His goal will be to not only shake new graduates' hands as they cross the stage, but shake open their minds to issues concerning the environment and making a difference in the "real world."

An attorney and environmental activist, Kennedy is the son of former Attorney General and Presidential candidate Senator

Robert F. Kennedy and nephew of President John F. Kennedy. He has degrees from both Harvard University and Virginia School of Law.

According to a press release issued by Keppler Speakers, Kennedy's reputation as a resolute defender of the environment stems from a litany of successful legal actions and as a result was named one of *Time* magazine's "Heroes for the Planet." He also serves as Senior Attorney for the Hudson Riverkeeper, President of Waterkeeper Alliance, Supervis-

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Courtesy: www.planoforum.com

Pharmacy students protest tuition increase

BY GABE LEDONNE
Beacon Editor-in-Chief

Pharmacy students voiced their animosity towards the administration's move to a differential tuition for the pharmacy program Thursday--a shift that will cost students in pharmacy 6.7% more than other undergraduates next fall.

Administrators had announced their intentions to increase tuition 6% for undergraduates and 12.7% for pharmacy students during a Student Government meeting on April 6.

At the pharmacy students' request, Vice-President of Enroll-

ment and Marketing Mike Frantz and Vice-President of Student Affairs Paul Adams responded to student concerns in an hour-long forum on April 14.

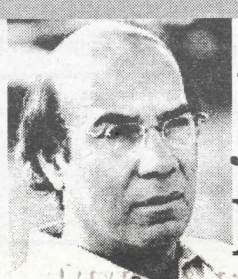
Dean of the Nesbitt School of Pharmacy and Nursing, Dr. Bernie Graham, opened the forum explaining why students felt the meeting was necessary.

"There were several students who came into my office very upset and worried about the tuition increase," Graham said. He added that while he knew students were upset, he would like for them to

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Jay Parini
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NEWS

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PHARMACY from FRONT PAGE

act in a professional manner.

After brief opening remarks by both Frantz and Adams, students were invited to ask questions, moderated by P3 Pharmacy Student Wichita Leng.

Students became almost instantly adversarial, questioning the fairness of differential tuition on the whole, and the fact that the added funds do not go directly back into the pharmacy program.

"I don't understand why we have to pay more than everyone else when the money's going to the university," one student said.

"It's a matter of supply and demand," Frantz responded, citing that pharmacy is the only program that has a waiting list for entry.

Many students also took issue with how they were informed of the tuition hike.

"This is such a drastic change, that affected so many of us, why not let us know ahead of time instead of us finding out with everybody else in the school newspaper?" one student asked.

"Maybe a lesson learned

there," Frantz stated. "But I will say, it has been protocol that we announce our budget to Student Government at their meeting. It's how we've done it in past years; and I believe they are open meet-

ings."

One student, citing his own research, questioned the accuracy of the comparison figures of other institutions provided by administrators. Another said that the university doesn't seem to care about



The Beacon/Gabe LeDonne
Dr. Paul Adams, Vice President of Student Affairs, and Mike Frantz, Vice President of Enrollment address concerns pharmacy students had about the pharmacy tuition increase.

pharmacy students.

"It just doesn't seem like you care about our financial hardship, and it's disheartening," he said.

"We do understand your hardship, and we'll work with you," Frantz responded, pointing out, "When costs go up, the amount you are eligible to borrow also goes up."

Adams added, "We have to worry about the hardship of 2,200 students...we felt that this overall was the best direction for us to go in and the fairest to everybody."

Several students stated that they've become embittered with the university, and don't plan on giving back as alumni, or recommending the school to others.

"I won't be sending my protégé here, I can tell you that," one student stated.

"I'm sorry you feel that way," Frantz responded.

Frantz later said that he hopes that students won't let this one tuition increase taint their overall feelings of their Wilkes experience.

"I would like to think...that over time they'll understand why this happened as they see the effects of the strategic plan help this institution," Frantz said, adding, "If they're angry with the institution but pleased with the pharmacy as they think about future

giving, they can certainly direct gifts to directly to the school of pharmacy."

Leaving the meeting, several students voiced their disappointment in the meeting. Many had hoped to change the administration's decision.

"[The meeting] doesn't seem to matter, because it seems finalized already," said one student.

But both Adams and Frantz pointed out that their intention was not to ask for their thoughts on the decision, but rather explain it.

"The students requested the meeting. We were happy to go there and try to provide a greater understanding of the rational behind the decision. But...it's not a decision we take to the students for their vote because they'd never vote for a tuition increase. We know that. But we believe in openness and answering questions," Frantz said.

"Because the arrangements were made through the school of pharmacy, neither Mike [Frantz] nor I were in a position to set the expectations for the meeting," Adams added.

The Board of Trustees approved the tuition increase on Friday, April 15. Their approval was the final step necessary to implement the proposed budget.

KENNEDY

from FRONT PAGE

ing Attorney at Pace University School of Law's Environmental Litigation Clinic, and is co-host of Ring of Fire on Air America Radio.

"Given the pending development of the riverfront in Wilkes-Barre, and the recent attention given to the ecological health of the Susquehanna River, bringing RFK, Jr.--one of the nation's pre-eminent environmental attorneys to campus--seemed timely and most appropriate," said Dr. Paul Adams, Vice President of Student Affairs.

And, of course, given his family history, Kennedy is no stranger to politics either. Early in his career, he worked on Democratic campaigns such as his uncle's, Senator Edward M. Kennedy in 1980; Al Gore's presidential bid in 2000; and John Kerry's recent presidential run in 2004.

Kennedy has struck a unique balance between his passion for the environment and political activism in that and other traditional Democratic arenas. In an oft-cited *Rolling Stone* interview, Kennedy sharply criticized the Bush

administration's environmental policies and predicted dire consequences resulting from plundering natural resources. His vocal opposition to the roll-back of environmental legislation in air and water pollution control, for example, has won him accolades from environmental groups all over the world. One of Kennedy's primary messages is that everyday people should become involved in the political process in order to protect themselves and the environment from self-serving policies developed by politicians.

But Kennedy's passion lies clearly in defense of the earth's natural resources and not in running for office. He is the best-selling author of several books and articles including *Crimes Against Nature* (2004); *The Riverkeepers* (1997), and *Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr.: A Biography* (1997).

Given the fact that comedian Bill Cosby spoke at last May's graduation, some graduates were doubtful Wilkes would be able to secure another big name this year and were pleasantly surprised to hear the news.

Senior class president Liz Roveda thinks Kennedy was a

good choice because it will look good for the university.

"I think it's a really good idea because of the elections that we just held and it's a primarily democratic region...My major is biology, [and] he's really set on environmental issues," Roveda said.

Adams also feels confident about Kennedy's message to the class of 2005, "I think he is dynamic and has a message that will resonate very well with our audience at Commencement."

Kennedy will also be receiving an honorary degree from the University and Adams further pointed out that it's the University's goal to release the speaker's name to the public by late October; however, circumstances sometimes preclude this strategy.

"With Mr. Cosby, we met that timetable. This year, we weren't sure about Mr. Kennedy until early March. The sooner in the academic year that we can confirm our speaker, the better the opportunity we have to take advantage of the visit to campus, and the relationship we are creating with the speaker. Whoever the speaker is that we identify, it must be approved by the Board of Trustees," Adams remarked.

The BEACON

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Box 111, Wilkes University
192 South Franklin Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766
(570) 408-5903

wilkesbeacon@hotmail.com

www.wilkesbeacon.com

NEWS IN BRIEF

Courtesy: Associated Press

Thousands arrested in largest U.S. dragnet

WASHINGTON--More than 10,000 fugitives wanted in connection with murder, rape, child abuse and other crimes have been arrested in the largest coordinated crackdown by federal, state and local law enforcement officials in history.

The number of arrests during the weeklong effort was 10 times the average for such a period, according to the U.S. Marshals Service, which led the nationwide dragnet timed to coincide with National Victims Rights Week.

At the same time, however, those arrests represent just 1 percent of the 1 million fugitives in the FBI's national database, the Marshals Service said.

More than 150 of those captured April 4-10 were wanted on murder charges; 550 were sought on rape or sexual assault charges; and more than 600 had outstanding arrest warrants for armed robbery, federal officials said Thursday.

Among those captured were 150 gang members and 100 unregistered sex offenders, said Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, who held a news conference with U.S. Marshals Service Director Ben Reyna to announce the results of "Operation Falcon" - an acronym for Federal And Local Cops Organized Nationally.

Group says wayward whale is from Canada

TRENTON, NJ--A wayward beluga whale that has been entertaining crowds along the Delaware River since Tuesday is believed to be from the Quebec area.

The 12- to 15-foot male named Helis was first discovered near the St. Lawrence River in 1986, according to the Quebec-based Group for Research and Education on Marine Mammals.

Experts said Helis is about 1,200 miles from home and seems to be healthy. The whale was spotted late Thursday morning near the bridge connecting Burlington, N.J., and Bristol, Pa., state police said.

The Canadian organization said it identified the whale through photos, which show a scar along its dorsal ridge and other blemishes. Helis, pronounced eh'-LEE, is derived from the French word helice, meaning propeller.

Car shopper, 81, hits husband, salesman, car, tree, wall

FORT MYERS, FL--An 81-year-old woman preparing to take a test drive at a car dealership hit her husband, a salesman, a car and a tree before running into a wall.

"She must have panicked," said Joe Sica, sales manager at Honda of Fort Myers.

The new Honda Accord shot backward after Dorothy Byrum got behind the wheel and apparently stepped on the wrong pedal Wednesday.

The open car door hit her 88-year-old husband, Robert, and the salesman. Then the car struck the parked car, the tree and the wall. The air bag deployed, and Byrum was not injured.

Her husband was knocked down but was in good condition the following day. The salesman was released after treatment and is expected to be out of work for about a week, Sica said.

Mother sentenced to jail for locking kids in room while she napped

BUTLER, PA--A mother was sentenced Wednesday to three to 23 months in jail for locking her three children in a bedroom while she napped.

Mary Elizabeth Rice, 27, had pleaded guilty in January to three counts of child endangerment.

She will have to serve at least three months in jail before she is eligible for parole. Butler County Judge William Shaffer also sentenced her to 24 months of probation.

Rice said she locked her children-ages 3, 5, and 7-in a bedroom on August 13, 2004. The children were discovered when one of their grandmothers arrived and saw them trying to get her attention from the bedroom window.

Free W-B parking ends today as meters certified

BY KRISTIN KILE
Beacon News Editor

Last week Wilkes-Barre was forced to offer free parking to residents and commuters throughout the city--and the reprieve from city fees all started in Butler County.

An attorney in the county filed an appeal because after conducting extensive research, he discovered that meters are required to be certified by the state every three years. The Butler County attorney then was successful in his appeal and the media picked it up. Mayor Tom Leighton said he was notified when two reporters from the *Citizens' Voice* asked him if the meters were certified.

In years past the county certified the meters. However, the previous commissioners eliminated the Weights and Measures department in the budget approximately two years ago. Since the department was eliminated, the state took over certification procedures.

The state department that certifies meters only has 18 employees and has not kept up with the certification across the state. Once Leighton discovered the problem, he immediately contacted the Governor's office to rectify the situation.

"My concern was that we would be put behind a city like Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, cities that will lose a large amount of revenue from their meters not being certified. I realized how devastating it could be to the city of Wilkes-Barre if we were put out of business," Leighton said.

Because the meters are not certified, the city did not write tickets all last week, and tickets that were issued on the uncertified meters could be appealed. Leighton said individuals who have paid their tickets cannot appeal because they have basically plead guilty to the violation. However, there is a 30-day appeals process for individuals who decide to fight the ticket because the meters were not certified.

"People that have plead not guilty and asked for a hearing, most likely will be successful," Leighton said.

The city gets around \$5,000 to \$6,000 a day in revenue from change in meters and parking violations. Leighton said the city does not rely heavily on this revenue, but it is factored into the budget.

"Meters [are] a way of bringing revenue in to continue to clean the streets and provide a safe and clean atmosphere...It's something that's going to be here for a while and it's something that was broken that we needed to correct in a timely manner," Leighton said.

Leighton said he does not like to have to give out tickets, but the city cannot provide free parking. Typically meters have a 2-hour limit; however, the meters surrounding Wilkes and Kings' have a 4-hour limit because the colleges have expressed the need for them. Leighton said meters are meant to keep people coming and going and that would not be the case if they did not ticket.

"What people don't understand is that if you don't get a parking ticket then...what happens there is you have people that will park cars for days or weeks at a time. That defeats the purpose of assisting people that are coming and going," Leighton said.

Kent Shelhamer Jr., Bureau Director of Amusement Rides, Measurement, Weights and Standards, has been with a crew certifying meters in Wilkes-Barre since last Monday. He said they have only found two meters that have not worked, one with a jammed quarter and another with a dead battery.

The certification process ended on Friday, so ticketing will resume today. Because of the meter situation, the Mayor has decided to appoint Pete Monka, Wilkes-Barre foreman, as the sealer for the city. Now Wilkes-Barre will be able to certify its own meters.

"The city has been excellent. They have been great to work for. They've given us a room. We've requested a room and they go out and pull the meter heads, bring them in. We certify them and then they take them back out. Which saves us a lot of foot-work," Shelhamer said.

Student Government Notes

SG received a **technology and network update** from Mike Salem, new CIO of Technology.

Nominations were made for the **Faculty Choice Award**. They are: Dr. Mark Stine, Dr. Donald Mencer, Dr. Michael Steele, Dr. Mischelle Anthony, and Dr. David Maize. Elections will be open to the student body on April 21 and 22.

Members of the Month are

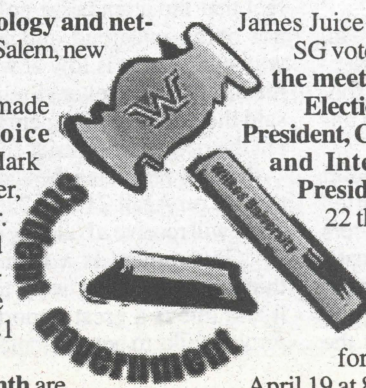
James Juice and the freshmen class.

SG voted 23-0-1 to allocate **\$250 for the meet and greet** last Thursday.

Elections for Student Government President, Commuter Council President and Inter Resident Hall Council President will be held April 21 and 22 through email.

Block party will be Saturday, April 23.

Clubs are reminded to pick up their **budget requests** for next year and return them by April 19 at 8 p.m.



DEBATE

from FRONT PAGE

Strzelecki suggested holding open forums and "bring a friend to SG" night to get more students involved and to provide insight on SG.

"I think that we have to, as Student Government, get more publicity for us...getting our name out there and making the student body understand exactly what we do," said Strzelecki.

McClave also wants to improve communications with students. "I think today [the meet and greet and debate] was actually one of the best things that has happened in Student Government because we have met a lot of people. They discussed issues with us, so we've learned from it," said McClave.

This year, the SG Constitution has been an point of controversy because meetings have illustrated that members do not know it as well as they should. Candidates were asked what they would do to ensure SG members are educated about the constitution if elected president.

McClave said members did not know the constitution because they never received it. He had to go on the SG website to actually read it. McClave said if they have to, he will lead SG in reading the constitution at the first meeting so everyone knows it.

"We definitely need to have everyone read it and know it by heart because that's how our meetings are run. It dictates everything we do, so everyone should be reading it," McClave.

Strzelecki agreed with McClave and said if they have to read it during the first meeting, then that's what needs to be done.

Steinberg said the reason why no one received the constitution was because it is currently undergoing changes. He said members of SG have changed the way elections are going to be run in the future as well as how vacancies are filled. He said the revised constitution is not in place yet, but will be presented to SG at next week's meeting and will then go to University President Joseph E. (Tim) Gilmour for approval.

"A trained monkey could read, run a Student Government election. We've written it so it's fool proof and that is very easy to understand," said Steinberg.

McClave was quick to point out that the revisions only started this semester and SG members should have received the constitution in the fall because all year they have been abiding by the version that was in place at the

beginning of the academic year, not the newly revised one. Strzelecki said they should have had the constitution to familiarize themselves with it and then when the changes were made they could familiarize themselves with that as well.

Allocation of funds and the handling of finances was also a heated topic at the debate. SG has been criticized for favoring themselves over the student body.

Strzelecki and Steinberg both do not think SG favors themselves. However, Steinberg said he can see where students get that idea and it goes back to students not knowing what SG really does.

"Unlike other clubs that we help fund, we aren't allowed to fundraise and raise funds for ourselves to go on things such as conferences. So we do have to use part of the Student Government budget to send ourselves to conferences, but we do help the other clubs in Wilkes University to go on their trips, too," said Strzelecki.

McClave, on the other hand, disagreed. He said SG expects students to pay out of pocket to cover some conference expenses, but a lot of SG trips are completely paid for. He also pointed out that SG can fundraise.

"Each individual class can fundraise, so part of that money can go to send someone from that class on a trip to reduce the cost of it," said McClave. He argued that SG may well fund its own initiatives without enough reflection. "I don't see why we should be completely paying for our trips," he added.

Other topics covered in the debate included parking, the importance of the next SG president's character, and low attendance at SG meetings. The April 6 SG meeting ended early because it did not meet quorum so the body could not vote on agenda items. In order for SG to have quorum, 18 students need to be present (or 51%), which is slightly more than half of the organization.

Both McClave and Strzelecki feel that the attendance policy is not being enforced and that is why attendance is low at weekly meetings. However, Steinberg said the policy is being enforced, but the policy is not strict enough.

Kinney reminded the audience to vote on April 21 and 22. Students will receive a ballot by email.

"Government is a wonderful thing and you never want to lose it and this is a great opportunity for you folks to get participation."

A Closer Look: Meet the Candidates

BY JOSEPH DEANGELIS

Beacon Layout Artist

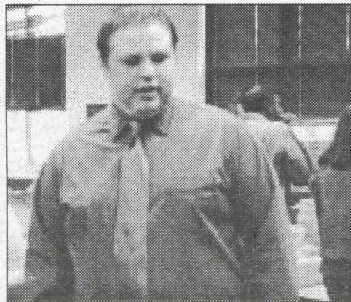
During club hours on Thursday, April 14, students got their first look at the Student Government (SG) presidential nominees in the Henry Student Center's new game room. Candidates made posters and spoke with students to explain their platform should they be elected to the top seat. This first-ever meet-n-greet not only helped candidates to connect with the student body but also helped bolster student interest in SG as the election draws nearer. The election will be held electronically April 21 and 22 through email.

Student Government President

John McClave

McClave, a junior mechanical engineering and business administration major, says that the most important thing to him is the students and that as SG president, he will work for them. He has two years experience with SG behind him, one as the Junior class treasurer. McClave is also a resident assistant at Fortinsky 229.

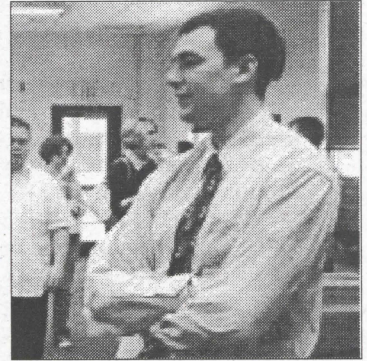
"We need to get our students more active in activities that SG does. We have had low attendance to all the meetings and for the most part we just discussed little things that really haven't been affecting the students. We need to put the students first," said McClave.



Andrew Steinberg

Steinberg, a junior biology and psychology major, has had leadership experience playing on various sports since his high school career and spent three years on SG. Steinberg said he is really determined to make a difference and wants to unite SG with the student body and members within SG.

"When I came here to Wilkes, I decided that I wanted to make a difference and for me to be able to make the biggest difference is be at the top of the student government, and I really feel that I can make a difference," said Steinberg.



Jenna Strzelecki

Strzelecki, a sophomore business administration major, is also vying for the SG president seat. With two years under her belt, last year spent serving as the freshmen class treasurer and this year on Executive Board as IRHC President, Strzelecki wants to unite SG with the students.

"I can help Student Government to become involved within the student body and have them more connected," she said. "I think the key issue is just reconnecting the student body with Student Government and unity between the two and within Student Government," said Strzelecki.



Inter Resident Hall Council President

Jen Cerra

Also running unopposed for Inter-Residence Hall Council (IRHC) president is Cerra, a sophomore pre-pharmacy major. She currently serves as a corresponding secretary for IRHC and is the secretary of her sophomore class as part of her second year on SG. Cerra's main focus is having more activities for students to do in their dorms, such as hall socials.

"I think the important thing is just to create the best environment for the people who are living here while at Wilkes because it's tough enough going to classes and everything that you deserve a nice place to stay and have fun every now and then," said Cerra.

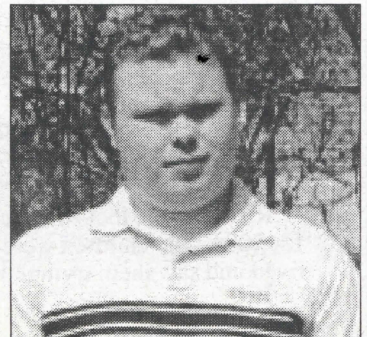


Commuter Council President

Rich Hannick

Hannick, a junior business administration major, is running unopposed for Commuter Council (CC) president. Although he has never been on SG, he has plenty of leadership experience serving on CC as the vice president this year and as treasurer the year before that. Hannick said he will work to better parking on campus, to improve the commuter lounge and to make commuters "feel more at home on campus."

"I'm running for it [CC president] because I feel as though I can take on a better leadership role [within the club]," said Hannick.



Photos courtesy Nick Zmijewski

SIFE team advances to nationals

Team fundraising with jello wrestling competition

BY KRISTIN KILE
Beacon News Editor

Wilkes University's Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) team is on a roll winning its fourth regional competition in five years.

The team recently won the New York City Regional Competition and Exposition for Students in Free Enterprise. This win moves the team to nationals, which will be held May 22 - 25 in Kansas City, Missouri.

Dr. Jeffrey Alves, Professor of Free Enterprise and advisor to the SIFE team said the competition consisted of a 25-minute presentation on projects they have done over the course of the year.

"It's judged on four primary criteria, all dealing with how well we teach various groups of people. One is market economics, the other is entrepreneurship, the third is personal success skills, in particular personal finance skills, and the fourth major criteria is ethics and social responsibility," Alves said.

To fill the market economics requirement, SIFE students mentored second graders on international trade, supply and demand needs of countries, geography and other factors related to global economy.

The seventh annual Wilkes University Entrepreneurial Experience (WUEE) fulfilled the second requirement of entrepreneurship. The event was aimed towards

high school students who brainstormed and came up with ideas to develop a business. SIFE also developed an Integrated Management Experience in which they guided Wilkes freshmen in formulating a business idea.

SIFE students also took part in the REACH Family Mentoring Program and Catherine McCauley House to fulfill the requirement of personal success skills. At REACH they helped at-risk families to become self-sufficient by educating them and helping them budget. At the McCauley House Wilkes students helped women succeed with personal finances.

The Allan P. Kirby Center Lecture Series fulfilled the last requirement of ethical and social responsibility. Cal Thomas, a columnist and social commentator, presented on ethical leadership and free markets in the Stark Learning Center.

"They were awesome. What impressed me the most was that fact that we had two freshmen, three sophomores, and one junior on the presentation team and so they really stepped it up at the competition a good couple of notches," Alves said.

Over the course of the projects, 40 students were involved in the programs. Ten students then went on to present the projects at the competition.

Denise Cole, junior accounting major and president of the SIFE club said mem-



The Beacon/Kristin Kile

Casey Grimm, Denise Cole, Andrew Jefferson, Tara Smith, Dr. Jeffrey Alves, Alicia Vieselmeyer, and Dennis Nielson are some of the members of SIFE who are headed to nationals on May 22-25 to compete against 120 teams from across the nation.

bers are asked to participate in at least one project during the year and that is why they were able to complete so many projects. This is her second competition and she was excited about the win.

"It was exciting. We had some tough competition. Our league was generally hard in NYC. But we performed well," Cole said.

The stiff competition included Keuka College in New York, who Wilkes lost to at nationals last year, and Brigham Young

University. This year at nationals SIFE will face 120 schools from all over the nation.

In order to raise money for nationals, SIFE club members will hold a Jello Wrestling competition at Block Party on April 23. The tickets will be pre sold at the Allan P. Kirby Center for \$5 and reduced to \$4 if the student brings a box of jello. Participants are free and can sign up at the Allan P. Kirby Center this week.

Earth Day celebration to educate on local environment

BY MYLES RUMMEL
Beacon Correspondent

Invasive species, riparian forests, inflatable dams and GPS mapping are just a few of the topic areas students will be learning about this Earth Day.

On Friday, April 22, an Earth Day celebration will be held in the riverfront parks in the Nesbitt and Kirby Park natural areas. The celebration will invite students from grades four through 12 to the area in order to learn about the local environment.

Vincent Cotrone, President of Riverfront Parks Committee, is one of the organizers of the Earth Day celebration. According to Cotrone, this particular celebration has been held for the past six or seven years. However, he estimates that Earth Day celebrations in Kirby Park have been going on for at least a decade.

This year over 500 students are expected to attend the celebration. "It's fun to get these kids out. They have a lot of questions and they learn a lot," Cotrone said.

Students can learn about the environment through a variety of ways, including presentations and a guided forest hike. The center of the celebration is to teach students about the environment locally.

"Many of our schools study the environment...but not the environment locally," Cotrone said.

In order to teach students about the environment, organizers rely on numerous partners to help out. Some of these partners are local colleges.

"That's the nice part, we have colleges students talking to younger students," Cotrone said.

From the Wilkes University campus, both the Environmental Club and the Air Quality Management Clubs will be on hand to discuss local issues.

"Our students will be involved with the different display tables," said Dr. Marleen Troy, Associate Professor of GeoEnvironmental Sciences and Engineering and one of the advisors for the Environmental Club.

Wilkes students will be having presentations on Global Positioning System (GPS) mapping and on air quality testing. "Kids can come and try different things, learn different things with regard to the environment," Troy said.

"We've been doing it for a couple of years," Troy added. "I guess we like to practice what we preach."

Sidhu school's pilot program leads the way in mentoring

BY RYAN DIPPRE
Beacon Correspondent

One of the lingering questions on the minds of many graduating college students is, "How well has my education prepared me for the real world?"

Unfortunately, sometimes students find out the hard way that the answer to that is, "Not very well."

The Jay S. Sidhu School of Business, however, is acting to keep this from happening to their students by connecting current students with alumni who have transitioned successfully into the professional world, and have gained insight in doing so.

The innovative program aims to create a mentoring relationship between alumni and current students.

"The program is still in the pilot stage," said Jason Griggs, a Wilkes alumnus currently working with the University to get the program on its feet. The mentor program is a joint effort between the alumni association and the Sidhu School of Business. A team of five individuals that represent both the school and the alumni oversees the pilot program.

"Probably the biggest benefit thus far

has been the improved relationship between the alumni and the Sidhu School of Business," said Matt Sowcik, head of Personal and Professional Development in the Sidhu School.

Sowcik is pleased with the pilot program so far, which currently involves ten students. "We have six seniors, one junior, one sophomore, and two freshmen that have been paired off with alumni in their particular field," Sowcik said.

The pilot program is scheduled to take full effect this fall, and mentoring will be included with the 1-credit Professional and Personal Development classes. "Currently, there are seven one-credit classes that run parallel to other courses that the students have to take," Sowcik explained.

Although the current pilot program is run separately from the PPD courses, the two will be combined for the spring semester.

"The program has two functions," Sowcik said, who is one of the five individuals overseeing the mentor program's growth. "Number one, for the students to build a professional and personal network outside of the University. Number two, to bring back and build strong relationships with the alumni."

Journalists face increase in government meddling

BY THE BEACON
EDITORIAL STAFF

There are a few cardinal rules in journalism:

1) Tell the truth; this means delivering a balanced, fair accounting of what happened.

2) Report what's newsworthy in a timely fashion; in other words, give the readers or viewers what they need and when they need it in order to make sound decisions about their lives.

3) And perhaps above all, engender trust.

If a newspaper or a television news station can't make good on the latter, then the first two issues are likely out the door. Does it matter if you tell the truth and do so in a timely fashion if the audience doesn't trust you? If a tree falls in the forest with no one to hear it, does it make a sound?

Journalists rely heavily on news sources, and they count on those sources to be credible. But if a news source asks not to be named, and a journalist guarantees that anonymity, the journalist is bound by this promise and must defend it at all costs. Why?

Because to give up a source, after a journalist has promised the opposite, not only damages the source, but ensures that audiences will lose trust across the board for that outlet.

The *Scranton Times* is currently involved in a legal challenge involving a source of information for an article that was published in a 2004 article on a state grand jury investigation into abuses at the Lackawanna County prison. The *Times* is accused of falsely reporting information with regard to testimony and because of this, prosecutors are working to force the *Times* to give up key anonymous sources.

The legal move is not unusual in recent months, however. Matthew Cooper of *Time* magazine, was held in contempt of court and jailed for refusing to name the government official who revealed to him the identity of an undercover CIA official, Valerie Plame. Judith Miller of the *New York Times* faced a similar charge and result. Reporter Jim Taricani of NBC affiliate WJAR television in Providence, R.I., was recently released after several months in

prison serving a criminal contempt sentence. Taricani went to jail after he refused to reveal the identity of a confidential source who provided him with videotaped evidence of corruption among Providence officials.

Protecting a source can mean life and death in some situations. In the aforementioned cases, journalists protected their sources with silence because not to do so may well have meant not only their professional reputations, but could well have endangered lives.

We are not asserting that the *Scranton Times* issue is a life or death one; however, if a professional reputation may be measured in life terms, to break one's word in such a way can kill an audience's faith in that news outlet.

A newspaper's primary responsibility is to get information that should be published, published. If a source has an issue with being identified, the reporter has the professional option to agree not to name that source. With this arrangement, the information is re-

ported to the public, who will benefit from it, and the source is protected from being known in the article as the giver of the information.

If the courts rule with those bringing the case against the *Scranton Times*, we encourage the reporters to stand by their position and serve their time in defiance. The more reporters like Taricani and others who stand up for the free press, the better off audiences are in learning information when and how they need it.

In the past eight years or so, government has seen fit to challenge journalists in court over and over again. By forcing itself into the media as the editor who has the final say, the court is walking a dangerous line between being supportive of the First Amendment and turning that very Amendment on its head. If this were to happen, what would come next could only prove worse to journalism and members of society, but society may realize this too late.

Beacon Poll Results

The following are results of a poll that *The Beacon* conducted online this past week. The poll was unscientific, and does not claim to reflect the overall attitudes of students on campus. Results are based on 21 responses.

The Beacon asked:
What is the worst part of the end of the semester rush?

- 0% Registering for next semester classes
- 40% Due dates for final projects and papers rapidly approaching
- 20% Having to ignore the spring weather in lieu of work
- 5% Studying for final exams
- 35% Finding the motivation to finish out the semester

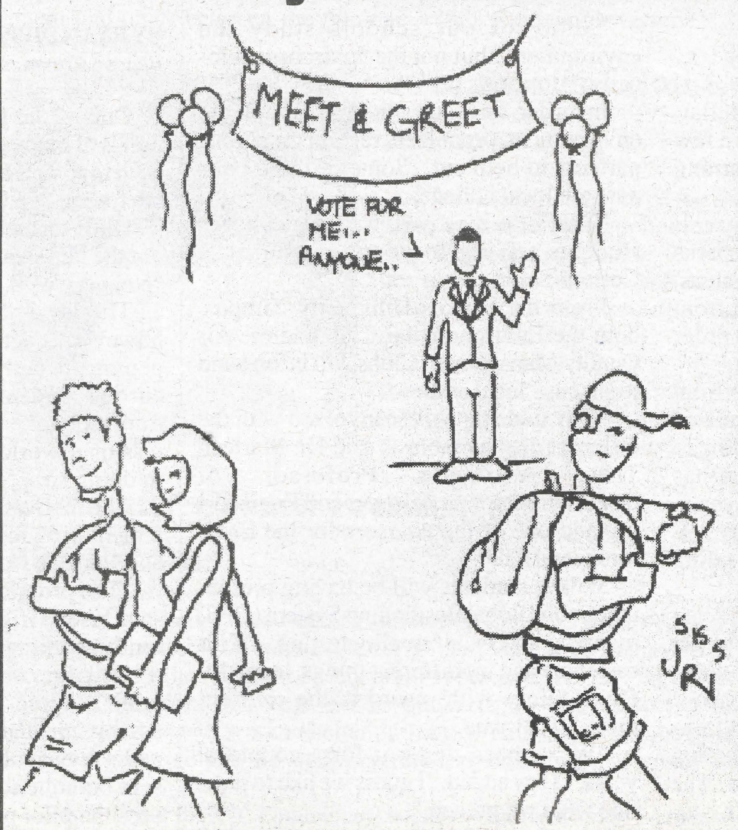
Next week's question:
What is the most significant challenge facing Wilkes University's Student Government in the 2005-06 academic year?

- Enhancing communication with student body
- Increasing visibility on campus
- Ensuring fairness and equity in allocating funds
- Learning and abiding by its Constitution
- Ensuring quorum at all meetings
- Working constructively with the campus media
- Maintaining a trustworthy image
- SG is doing great and faces no significant challenges

Visit www.wilkesbeacon.com to cast your vote. Results will be published in next week's issue of *The Beacon*.

Nickle for Your Thoughts

By: Jason Nickle



The BEACON

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BY J.W.
Beacon

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Why we're no longer afraid...but should be

BY J.W. DAVIES
Beacon Contributor

What ever happened to those "Middle Eastern looking" gentlemen who were detained awhile back for loitering around the nuclear power plant in Berwick?

I honestly don't know and neither do you. In fact, I honestly don't care and neither do you.

It's been four years now and we haven't been attacked. Sure, the terror threat goes up every now and then from yellow to orange, or red to yellow, but does that really matter? Absolutely not. Nobody knows what "level yellow," or "level orange" means. And the reason for this is actually very simple to explain.

We are no longer afraid because the whole terrorist situation was handled American style. September 11, 2001, could

have been one of the greatest days in the history of the United States. We could have turned a major corner in foreign policy and international relations, not to mention the fact that we could have reached out to all religions of the world with a peaceful hand.

We had two choices. One: round up the posse and head out after the "evil doers" with guns blazing; or two: follow the advice of our President's chief advisor, Mr. Jesus Christ, and pursue a peaceful resolution sans guns. Unfortunately for us, however, our President's admiration of Jesus falls a distant second to his emulation of Rooster Cogburn, so we chose option one.

This choice, for the most part, seemed to work. It got the President re-elected. It made us feel safe. One thing, however, that we fail to realize is that this illusion of safety can only last so long. Sure, we may not be attacked for quite a while, but what effect will this have on future generations? Not

much. They will most likely view life as we do now, like we're in some kind of movie.

Ten years from now a teacher will ask a student, "What happened on September 11, 2001?" The student will stand proudly and answer, "Well, first these bad guys attacked the White House and the Empire State Building, right? And then the President picked up his red phone and called the strike team. Then Will Smith, Vin Diesel, Ben Affleck, Chuck Norris and Steven Segal got together and flew over to Arabia, or something like that. Then they fought all these armies in the desert and made their way to the main city, where Vin Diesel pulled down a statue of the evil leader with a chain and Will Smith fought the leader and fell in love with his daughter, the Arabian Princess. They were cheered through the streets by all of the grateful people and..."

Okay, this may not actually happen, but I would not be surprised if it did. If you

think about it, all of the events following September 11 actually play out like some kind of modern action movie. And their effect has been to create, for us, a grand illusion of superiority and security. So does it really matter if our very own nuclear power plant is protected? Just think about the previous example of the young naïve student and remember, in Hollywood there is always a sequel already in production.

In fact, the trailer was just released and it went like this...

First you see a satellite image of the United States. Then that familiar voice says, "We thought it was over. We thought we won, but we've only pissed them off." Then the shot zooms in to an image of that familiar rectangular state. It zooms even closer and, to your surprise, you notice that you're looking at a satellite image of your very own house and then you realize that there is a bullseye in your backyard.

Catholic church should look toward a moderate Pope

BY REBECCA GOODMAN
Beacon Op/Ed Editor

By the time you read this, what I have to say and speculate on may become irrelevant.

This is highly unlikely, for conclave rarely lasts for one day, and there is rarely a new pope chosen in one round of voting. Most likely, dark, black smoke has already risen from the chimney, providing one of the only visible signals as to an election of a pontiff within the entire secret procedure.

Irrelevant or not, the decision process that began in Vatican City this morning is of great importance not only to the Catholics who the new pontiff will represent, but also to the world community.

With the death of Pope John Paul II, the Catholic community found itself without a leader—a leader who, for some, myself included, was the only leader of the church that they had ever known. His spot now open, reflection on his papacy, the church, and its doctrine has become essential. As somewhat of a Catholic, I find the entire process fascinating and extremely interesting for the next leader of the Catholic church will be faced with some challenges in his reign.

Expressing my own doubt in the strength of my religion by labeling myself as "somewhat Catholic," I believe that these doubts shadow many others in the flock as well. This doubt encompasses the fact that in 2005 many U.S. Catholics are hard pressed to fully follow a doctrine that can be considered in society's eyes as a bit archaic.

It's not that tradition is a bad thing; it can be quite beautiful sometimes. But the issue arises when the tradition goes from being something ceremonial to trying to be

a ruling force, effectively alienating some who have faith in the tradition. In our new century, many societal values that started as somewhat radical ideas are now, if not fully accepted, possess overwhelming amount of support. Society has grown but the church has not necessarily kept pace.

All the incense, candles, and pomp and circumstance are nice to experience, but doctrine that supports an all male, homophobic, pro-life in all circumstances, birth control defiant church, for example, just does not fit well with our times. Or many Catholics for that matter.

This said, many hope that this conclave may bring about a more open, more liberal papacy (that's right I said papacy and liberal in the same sentence!). Wonderful as this may seem to some, it will not happen now. Although a progressive thinker in his own right, while changing some aspects of the face of the Catholicism, John Paul II was still rather steeped in the view of a patriarchal, traditional church. A church that would forbid a remarried Catholic the sacrament of communion or forbid an openly gay seminarian, although celibate, the right to advance into the priesthood.

The best bet for Catholicism's newest leader would be if he (I hate to write this, but I doubt that pronoun will change any time soon) were a moderate candidate who would realize what issues deserve wide attention, such as the war in Iraq and peace efforts in Israel, as opposed to making it church doctrine that anyone going against church legislation on birth control is not one of the faithful. Trivial issues like the latter are causing a bigger problem for the Vatican. Many Catholics find it hard to agree with a religion that mandates the way they are to think with regard to personal and political issues and are therefore not

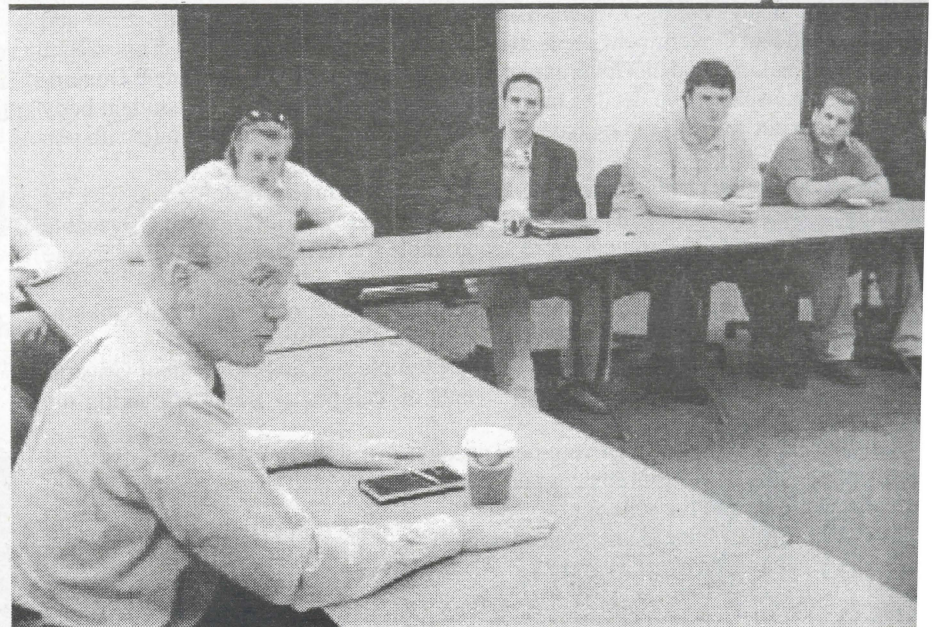
considered faithful members of the flock. Trivial issues can be handled by individual dioceses if the need presents itself, but on of the big issues of Catholicism is maintaining this balance between church leaders and the faithful.

Perhaps that is where everyone should start, new pontiff and Catholics alike, with faith. Isn't that what religion is all about? Yes, it is a belief system, and yes, we are to follow our belief systems with respect to our affiliation, but having faith in a higher power, being, creator, or doubt in any of these, whatever you feel, is what makes

you a believer (or somewhat of a believer) in the first place. This faith in something, should not be faith in archaic doctrine solely, but of what the doctrine is seeking to keep, no matter how screwed up it seems in it process.

The next pontiff would be wise to have faith, trusting that the right decisions will be made—faith that church leaders and followers may finally reach a balance of tradition and progressive thinking within Catholicism, and that it will happen in this papacy.

Joe Hoeffel Visits Campus



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski
Former senatorial candidate Joe Hoeffel speaks to a small group of students in the Miller Conference Room Thursday, April 12.

City parking: anarchy in the streets

BY MATT ZEBROWSKI

Beacon Asst. Op/Ed Editor

Last Wednesday was a glorious day for the oppressed, hard-working proletariats of Wilkes-Barre. Specifically, myself. I got to do something I had been wanting to do for a few weeks but was saving for the right moment. Let me tell you, ladies and gentlemen, that I got to park at a meter.

It's not the actual fact that I parked at a meter that makes this act of rebellion on my part such an effective stance against the Man. It's the fact that I didn't have to pay for it. See, in early April, the city of Wilkes-Barre realized that its meters weren't certified by the State Bureau of Measurement, and a legal precedent set in Pittsburgh said that parking fines from uncertified meters were invalid. So, of course, I defiantly didn't put any of my pocket change in the meter and spent the day hoping, praying for a ticket.

I wanted to go to court. I wanted to personally, if not literally, thumb my nose at Tom Leighton and the rest of the city government. I wanted to make a statement, to slip through a loophole and save myself

about half a buck in the process. My victory would have been made all the more sweet by the fact that my half a buck was a small part of a really big chunk of money that the city lost in meter revenue because of hordes of everyday citizens participating in acts of civil disobedience just like my own.

I mean, Big Brother over there in city hall got what was coming to him. Think about it. This city -

government was ballsy enough to raise our right-to-work tax for the first time in, like, years from a totally affordable \$10 by a whopping 500% to \$52 this year! That averages out to, like, almost an entire extra dollar out of my paycheck a week! Maybe if they weren't so busy taxing the living crap out of hard-working folk like myself, they would have realized that the deadline for meter certification was coming up and fixed it ahead of time, instead of crying like sissies about the lost money from meters and fines. Boo hoo, guys, *you just screwed me out of fifty-two dollars!*

Now that poetic justice has been served on that particular issue, I have a few other suggestions as to what we, the long-marginalized citizens of this humble city, can rally against next. First off, there's a lot of potholes around here. I don't like that. And I also don't like how they take the Scrooge way out and just fill them with gravel every few months. I mean, come on guys. Paving things once in awhile would be nice. Don't be

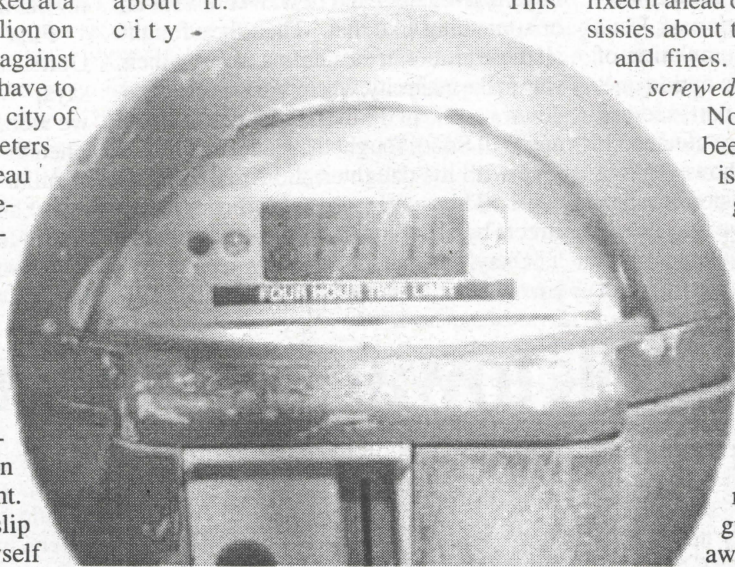
such cheapskates.

There's also that hole in the ground on Washington Street where they started to build something and then just ran out of money. What kind of lack of foresight is that? I mean, why start something you know you don't have the cash to finish?

Actually, the whole downtown, now that I think about it, is a mess. Those buildings around the square and all could use some *major* renovations. How does the city ever expect to "revitalize" the downtown when it looks like junk?

So are you with me? These things all need to be taken care of, right? Here's what I think we should do. We should all stay home one day next week. We'll say Wednesday to mark the two week anniversary of my first act of rebellion against this Machiavellian city government. Next Wednesday, don't park at a meter. Don't go shopping on the square. Don't put gas in your car. Don't go to McDonald's for lunch. Don't spend even a single cent in the city of Wilkes-Barre. I bet that'll show 'em to let this city get in such a state of disrepair. Maybe then they'll start fixing things up a little around here.

You hear that, all of you fat cats down at city hall? The revolution has begun!



Your Voices...

SG Presidential Candidate Speaks Out

On April 21 and 22, Wilkes University student body will vote for its next Student Government President. I am Jonathan McClave and I'm one of the candidates running for the position. I would like to take a second to explain to you who I am and what I think needs to change in Student Government.

I am a junior mechanical engineering and business major. I am also a Resident Assistant and a member of the racquetball club. I have been on Student Government for the past two years and am currently serving as your junior class Treasurer.

There are many changes I would like to make in Student Government. First and foremost, Student Government needs to restore faith to the student body. This will be obtained by making Student Government more transparent. To make Student Government more transparent we need to have better communication with the student body through both our website and by having Student Government members talk with you in person.

The student body needs to know what Student Government is doing and why we are doing it because what we do affects your time here at Wilkes. This will also enable you to hold Student Government more accountable for its actions because everyone will know what it is doing for the students.

Student Government needs to put the students first. Every action Student Government makes should affect the student population in a positive way.

Student Government also needs to set the example on campus. Student Government members need to attend as many events on campus as possible making the organization more visible.

Last but not least, Student Government needs to distribute money more fairly to all clubs so they can attend conferences and hold events that will have a positive impact on their members and the school.

If you feel these changes are needed and will benefit you, then please vote for me, Jonathan McClave, on April 21 and 22.

Thank you,
Jonathan McClave
Candidate for Student Government President

Your Voices...

Narconon Drug Education

Dear Editor,

In response to Curran Dobson's opinion article regarding the Narconon® Drug Education and Prevention Program, I would like to present some actual facts on the subject.

First of all, drug education programs presented by Narconon centers all over the world have been very successful and beneficial, which is why we've been able to reach hundreds of thousands of students per year and why the vast majority of schools and administrations continue to invite us back, because it works.

Regarding the colored ooze, nowhere was it ever said that doing cocaine, or some other drug, would produce colored ooze coming out of the body. On the contrary, the same effective sauna detoxification program [...] has been used by hundreds of our nation's heroes from the 9/11 tragedy [...]. There is actual evidence of at least one rescue worker who did in fact have a purple-colored substance emit from his body, which was later identified as a toxic substance from the collapsed buildings. Now, how the two of those could be mixed up is beyond my comprehension.

It is true that the program is based on the research and discoveries made by American author and humanitarian L. Ron Hubbard, and his developments in the field of drug rehabilitation are what make the Narconon program so successful today and why it has spread from a prison cell in Arizona in 1966 to over 120 programs in 40 countries.

The claim that the Narconon drug education and prevention program is not based on facts is simply an opinion. As for the statement that a little bit of a drug can act as a stimulant and more can act as a sedative, alcohol is but one example. Alcohol is a depressant, but I'm sure we've all seen someone drink a few beers and get crazy. Cocaine is a stimulant, but enough of it will knock a person out like a depressant.

If you would like more information visit Narconon Arrowhead's main website at www.stopaddiction.com or to get help for a loved one in need call 1-800-468-6933. You may also visit Narconon International's website at www.narconon.org.

Respectfully,
Luke Catton
Narconon Arrowhead

Editor's note: This letter was cut for space restraints. The full version is at www.wilkesbeacon.com.

FEATURES

APRIL 18, 2005

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Model UN students learn the ins and outs of the United Nations

BY ERICALEO
Beacon Staff Writer

For the past five years, Wilkes University's political science department has offered PS398, better known as the Model United Nations (UN) class, during the spring semester to students.

The Model UN class is basically structured in a seminar format. The students participate in reading activities and are encouraged to provide their own input in class discussions.

Dr. James Merryman, professor of sociology and anthropology at Wilkes, has taught the class for the past four years.

"The course is designed specifically to familiarize the students with the functions of the UN and contemporary world issues," said Merryman.

A week before Easter break the students, accompanied by Merryman, attended the national Model UN event in New York City. This year's event hosted over 3,000 participants, 40 percent of whom were from outside the United States.

"It's tremendous exposure for the students through interacting with students from Harvard as well as other countries around the world," said Merryman.

Most of the funding for the



Courtesy of Nancy Mark

Students in the Model UN class recently took a trip to NYC and met the ambassador of Samoa, Ali'ioaga Feturi Elisaia. From left to right (front row): Nick Zmijewski, Ben Kushner, Ambassador Ali'ioaga Feturi Elisaia, Nancy Mark, Jessica Alinsky (back row): Ryan Zarkesh, Sarah Murphy, Darron Fadden, Andrew Amoroso, John Plishka, and Hugh Taylor.

trip was provided by Wilkes, such as registration fees, hotel accommodations, bus fees, and some food expenses.

Schools that participate in the Model UN event are assigned a country to represent. This year, Wilkes University students represented Samoa, which is a small

group of islands located halfway between Hawaii and New Zealand.

The group even got to meet Samoan Ambassador, Ali'ioaga Feturi Elisaia.

"The research conducted on a smaller country is geared toward their particular politics in terms of

international activities and the social, economic, political and environmental issues that are faced in that country," stated Merryman.

The class is open to students from all majors who are interested in global issues as well as interacting with national and interna-

tional students. This year, students from various majors including political science, history, psychology, sociology and English participated in the course.

Ben Kushner, senior English major, was a member of this year's Model UN class and felt that the class as well as the actual Model UN event was an interesting experience.

"It was neat to meet people from all over the world," stated Kushner.

Sarah Murphy, senior political science major, was also in the class and felt that it was a rewarding experience.

Murphy stressed that meeting and keeping in touch with new people was one of the perks of the trip, but the trip itself was an exhilarating opportunity.

"We stayed only a few blocks from Fifth Avenue and Times Square, so we were essentially right in the heart of New York City," stated Murphy.

Murphy also felt that the learning experience was important in terms of viewing firsthand how political issues are addressed nationally as well as internationally.

"You learn a lot real quickly about how legislation moves on an international level," said Murphy.

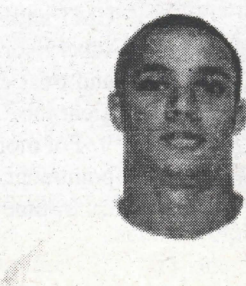
Tell Us... What is your guilty pleasure?

Adrienne Richards, *Beacon* Correspondent, scoured the campus asking random students what embarrassing thing they secretly enjoy.

Erica Buchholz
junior, psychology major
"Sponge Bob."



John Impagliazzo
freshman, business marketing major
"Paris Hilton."



Amanda Woodle
freshman, pharmacy major
"Anything pink."



Carrie Stolavick
freshman, elem. ed. major
"Chocolate!"



Elizabeth Pauly
freshman, psychology major
"Harry Potter."



Massages offer ultimate stress relief

BY DONNATALARICO
Beacon Staff Writer

Believe it or not, your body may be trying to tell you something.

Aches, pains and irritability may be due to more than just a hard day at school. That cold you've been trying to get over for weeks could be lingering around for a bigger reason. There are no ribbons, no walks, runs or relays, and no wristbands to honor those who suffer from this condition. Yet, millions suffer from it.

We're talking about stress. Stress can affect people both physically and mentally. It can make them sick, affect well-being and actually change a person's thoughts, behaviors and even personalities.

All those symptoms notwithstanding, stress is something that is often shrugged off.

The good news is that stress can be combated. But its cure is not in the form of a miracle pill. Instead, it is something that takes a little effort on the part of the stress sufferer.

There are many things that can relieve stress, such as exercise, yoga, meditation, breathing techniques and even a relaxing hobby. But, there is probably not a more enjoyable method of stress relief than a massage.

"Therapeutic massage is a remarkable tool to use for coping with stress. It's a deeply relaxing practice helps you feel more relaxed physically and mentally, as well as recharge and restore energy and creati-

ty," said Karen McConnell, a Honesdale massage therapist.

But how do the hands of a massage therapist like McConnell work as a cure to the negative effects of stress on the body, mind and spirit? There are several reasons.

Release of Muscle Tension

Muscle tension is one of the tell-tale signs of stress, a sometimes painful one at that. It can literally be rubbed away by seeing a massage therapist.

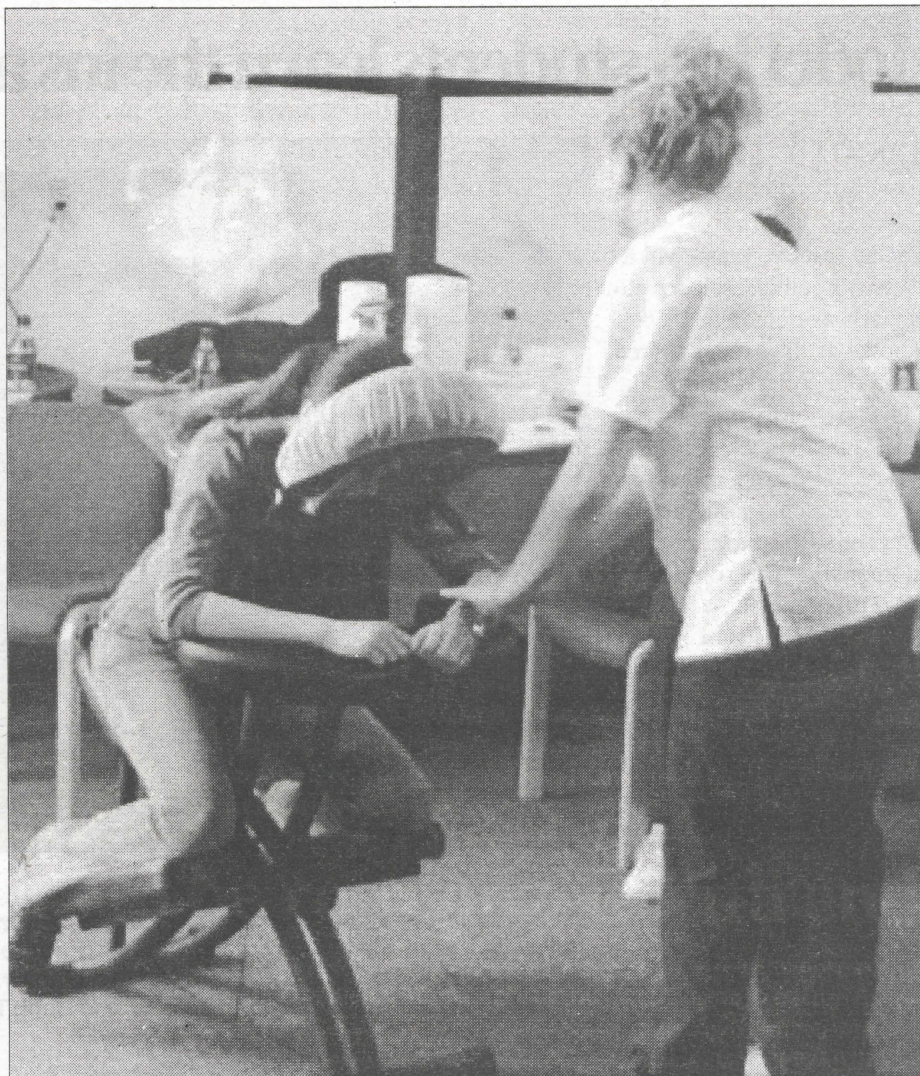
According to literature picked up at certified massage therapist and Reiki master Dave Gutowski's practice, with kneading and stretching techniques muscles and muscle tissues are loosened.

Repeated sessions can even begin to reverse the muscle contractions that make them feel so tight. In addition, this causes endorphins to be released into the blood stream. Since endorphins are the body's own natural pain killer, this heightens the feeling of relief of aching muscles.

Increased Circulation

When circulation increases from a massage, the blood carries out unwanted and unneeded waste products, and also helps cleanse cells with nutrients that are vital to repair tissue.

"Because of the bad stuff being released, I provide water to my clients when they are finished. It helps them replenish,"



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski
A Wilkes student gets a quick stress-relieving massage at the Health Fair last week. A massage is a great way to relax this time of year when the stress is building with papers due and finals coming up. Allied Medical and Technical Institute in Forty Fort offers massages for just \$10.

McConnell said, adding that without drinking water to help release toxics, flu-like symptoms can occur.

Increased circulation can also go right to your head, meaning an oxygen increase will occur in your brain, reducing mental fatigue and heightening concentration. Many people also report that because all of this, emotional problems, anxiety and depression actually fade away as well for several days.

Improved Sleep

Another major inhibitor of stress is lack of sleep or troublesome sleep, which results in fatigue. The quality of restful sleep improves greatly during the few days following a massage. If you are sleeping more, your body has more of a chance to repair and restore energy levels.

Massages at high end day spas can be pricey, but Wilkes students have the advantage of being just minutes from a massage school that offers massages for just \$10. Allied Medical and Technical Institute in Forty Fort (with another location in Scranton) offers a massage therapy program and the students spend their last portion of the program running a student clinic.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to get hands on experience and already get acquainted with clients while still in school," said Dona Czarkowski, RN, CMT and Allied's Scranton campus clinic supervisor. "Our students are professional and treat clients with respect. They do a great job."

For more information or to make an appointment, call Allied Medical and Technical Institute at 570-288-8400.

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Efforts made to heighten Wilkes students' safety

BY JESSICA NIEMIEC
Beacon Staff Writer

Living in a city environment, crime is likely to happen. So it's very important to learn how to protect oneself in the event that an emergency arises.

"Protecting yourself is 90% mental and 10% physical," said Jerry Rebo, Manager of Public Safety Operations. "There's a lot of common sense involved."

Safety on campus is the focus of not only of those in the Office of Public Safety, but also the students, and Health Services. In fact, Health Services representatives recently sponsored an event to help educate and promote awareness of those on campus.

The title was "Survival on the Streets," and it brought the owner of Hyder's American Fitness, Terry Hyder, on campus to instruct in self-defense techniques. According to Hyder, the goal of the program was to "educate on street violence, and what this society is becoming...I don't promote violence, just educate against it. I see the times have changed," he said.

Beyond programs on campus, there is a

great deal more going on to help raise the safety bar. Diane O'Brien, Director of Health Services, recently acquired a list of precautions gathered from rapists in prisons on what they look for in a potential victim.

"It was very interesting," said O'Brien. "Most of what was on the list, I had never thought of before. I'm thinking of making it into a program or a poster to help the girls on campus."

The list includes things like the fact that the first thing rapists look for in a victim is hairstyle. The list states they are most interested in braids, ponytails, or longer hair that is easily grabbed. Secondly, rapists search for clothing that is easily removable, or easy to tear. They also look for women that seem distracted with something.

The information then goes on to talk about some statistics such as the more likely place to be abducted from (a grocery store parking lot), or the most common hours (5-8:30 a.m.).

"We don't take safety issues lightly," said O'Brien. "We really put safety as a priority. The next time we host a program to raise awareness on campus, we're talk-

ing about doing it on a Sunday afternoon, and asking students to sign up, so that we have a better idea of who's going to show up."

The Public Safety Office is also doing many things to promote safety on campus. On Friday, April 15,

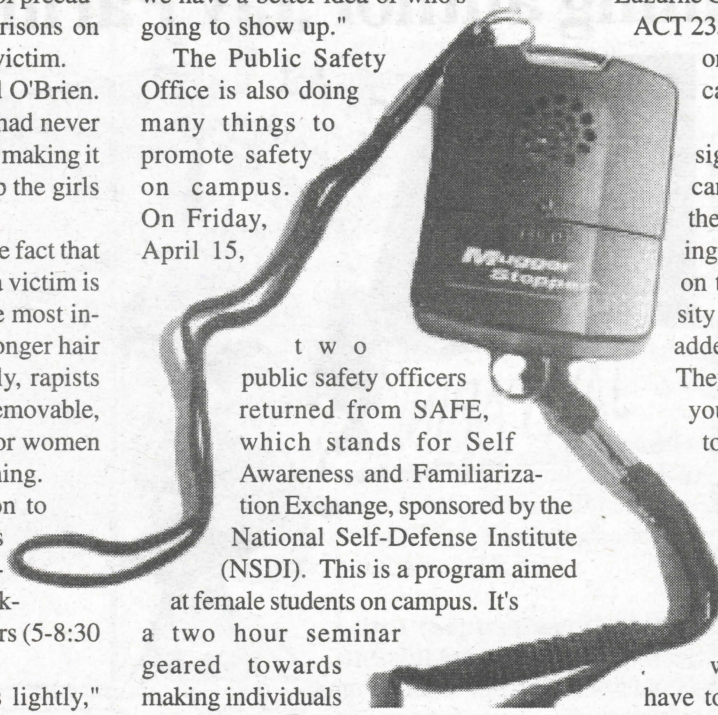
two public safety officers returned from SAFE, which stands for Self Awareness and Familiarization Exchange, sponsored by the National Self-Defense Institute (NSDI). This is a program aimed at female students on campus. It's a two hour seminar geared towards making individuals better prepared to spread the word of safety to those on their campus.

Public Safety officers have also been sponsored to attend a three-day school at Luzerne County Community College, and ACT 235 school, both which are focused on creating and maintaining safer campuses.

There are also some things designed especially for campus that can help students arrive safely to their destinations. "If you're walking River Street at night, don't walk on the dike side; walk the University side. It's safer," said Rebo. He added "Always call for an escort. They are around 24-7. They'll give you a ride from one end of campus to the other late at night."

Students are encouraged to check stairwells and parking lots in the evenings to make sure no one is lurking around.

The last word of advice from Rebo, "Keep in mind that we can teach it, but [students] have to abide by it." In other words, stay smart to stay safe.



Scholars, leaders to be recognized with end of year awards

BY JAMIE BABBITT
Beacon Features Editor

After a long semester of papers, labs, tests, and internships, wouldn't it be nice to be recognized for a job well done?

Wilkes thinks so.

Each year both scholars and leaders across all departments and campus organizations are recognized in an awards ceremony.

Barbara King, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, organizes two events dedicated to those students who worked hard and achieved a great deal throughout the year. One is for extracurricular and leadership standouts, which will be held on April 28 as a luncheon, and the other is for academic excellence, which will take place as a dinner on May 14.

Recipients of the awards are all given certificates or plaques. Some are also offered a book of their choice, and others are awarded money. According to King, it depends on the type of award it is and the way it was set up when it was established.

Each department or advisor of an extracurricular activity is responsible for picking a recipient of each award and, according to King, each department has a different criteria for selecting a student.

"There are generally votes within the

faculty... It's strictly up to the department what they want to use as criteria. So it doesn't necessarily have to be the highest GPA. It could be a combination of things," she said.

According to King, the most prestigious of the awards are given at commencement instead of one of the two awards ceremonies. One of these awards is the top division students which awards one student from each school, with the exception of pharmacy.

"And also the male and female top graduates of the University are given at commencement. And the other award that is given at commencement is the Young Alumni Award which is the alumni award for an outstanding graduate... and that is [an]...award that combines everything in terms of academics, involvement, social service," said King.

Dr. Darin Fields, Dean of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, is responsible for selecting a student to receive the Liberal Arts School Award. Each college has their own method of choosing the student to take home the award of their respective school. Fields has the college chairs recommend or nominate students and then uses them as a committee to select the recipient.

"It's one student who has a very high

GPA, some level of outstanding accomplishments, perhaps an extracurricular or campus life, student government. In other words, an outstanding student in all areas of college life, but usually it's the highest GPA," said Fields.

"It's a very nice event and it's really kind of one of the early commencement events.

Senior salute is going to be [this] week, and that is the kickoff to the commencement season. This is the follow up to the commencement season because once we get past that May 14 dinner, then we're into senior week. So these are just kick off events for senior events," said King.

Wilkes-Barre supports ADA



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski
On Saturday, April 16 at 9 a.m., over 100 Wilkes-Barre community members began the 5K run/walk held by the Wilkes University Chapter of American Pharmacist Association that benefited the American Diabetes Association. The race began outside of McClintock residence hall on South River Street. Participants of the run/walk received a t-shirt in recognition of their feats.

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Award winning author Jay Parini to visit campus tonight

BY SARAH HERBERT
Beacon Asst. A&E Editor

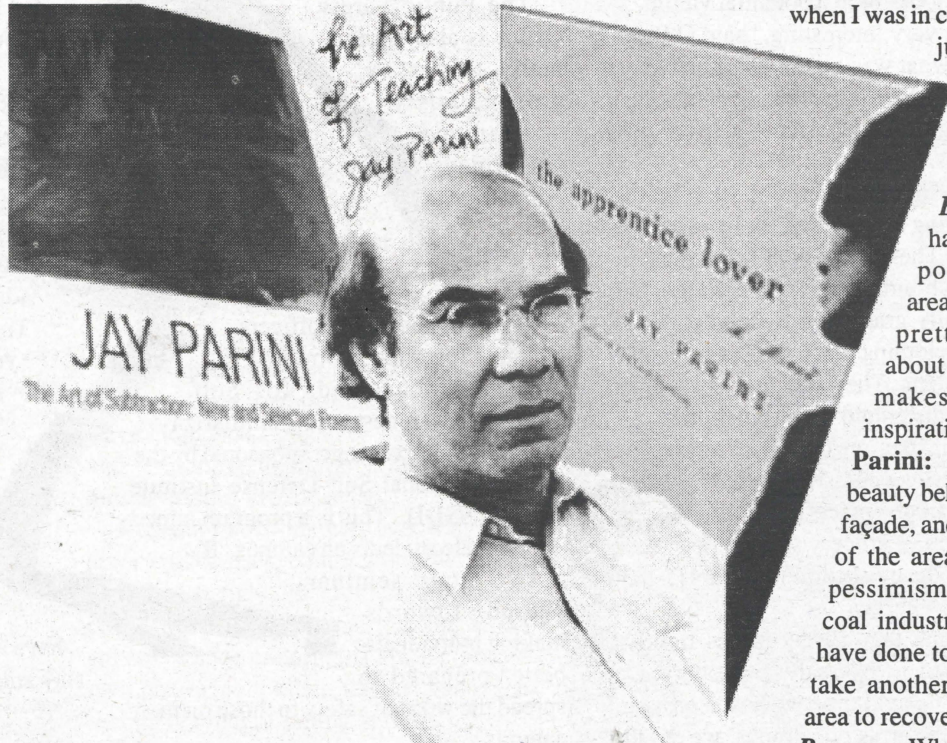
Beauty. Not the first word that comes to mind when describing the Wyoming Valley. However, some people do see the valley as a beautiful place.

Author and Scranton native Jay Parini has been inspired by the area on countless occasions. He has written several novels and books of poetry inspired by or set in the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton area.

Born in Pittston and raised in Scranton, Parini said, "I still retain a great fondness for the area, and often return there in memory, which means I often write about it."

Parini will be visiting Wilkes University tonight to read from his latest collection of poetry, *The Art of Subtraction: New and Selected Poems*. The reading will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the Kirby Salon.

In addition to being a poet



and a novelist, Parini has also written three biographies.

Recently The Beacon had the opportunity to talk to Parini about his ties to the area and his

work as a writer.

Beacon: When did you know that writing would be your career?

Parini: I wanted to be a writer

when I was in college, and by my junior year I had decided firmly that this was the path I would choose.

Beacon: You have written some poetry about this area. Most people are pretty pessimistic about the valley, what makes it a source of inspiration for you?

Parini: I see the natural beauty behind the industrial façade, and I like the culture of the area; but I also feel pessimism about what the coal industry and its legacy have done to the area. It may take another century for the area to recover itself.

Beacon: Who influenced you as a writer?

Parini: As a poet, my main influences are Frost and Theodore Roethke. As a novelist, I don't know. Tolstoy,

Dickens, and Fitzgerald are writers I like to read, also Evelyn Waugh, Graham Greene, and some of the contemporary British novelists, such as Ian McEwan.

Beacon: What are you currently working on?

Parini: I'm working on a novel set in the Civil War, about a man from Scranton who was a prisoner of war in Georgia and later became mayor of Scranton. A true story, which I'm turning into a novel.

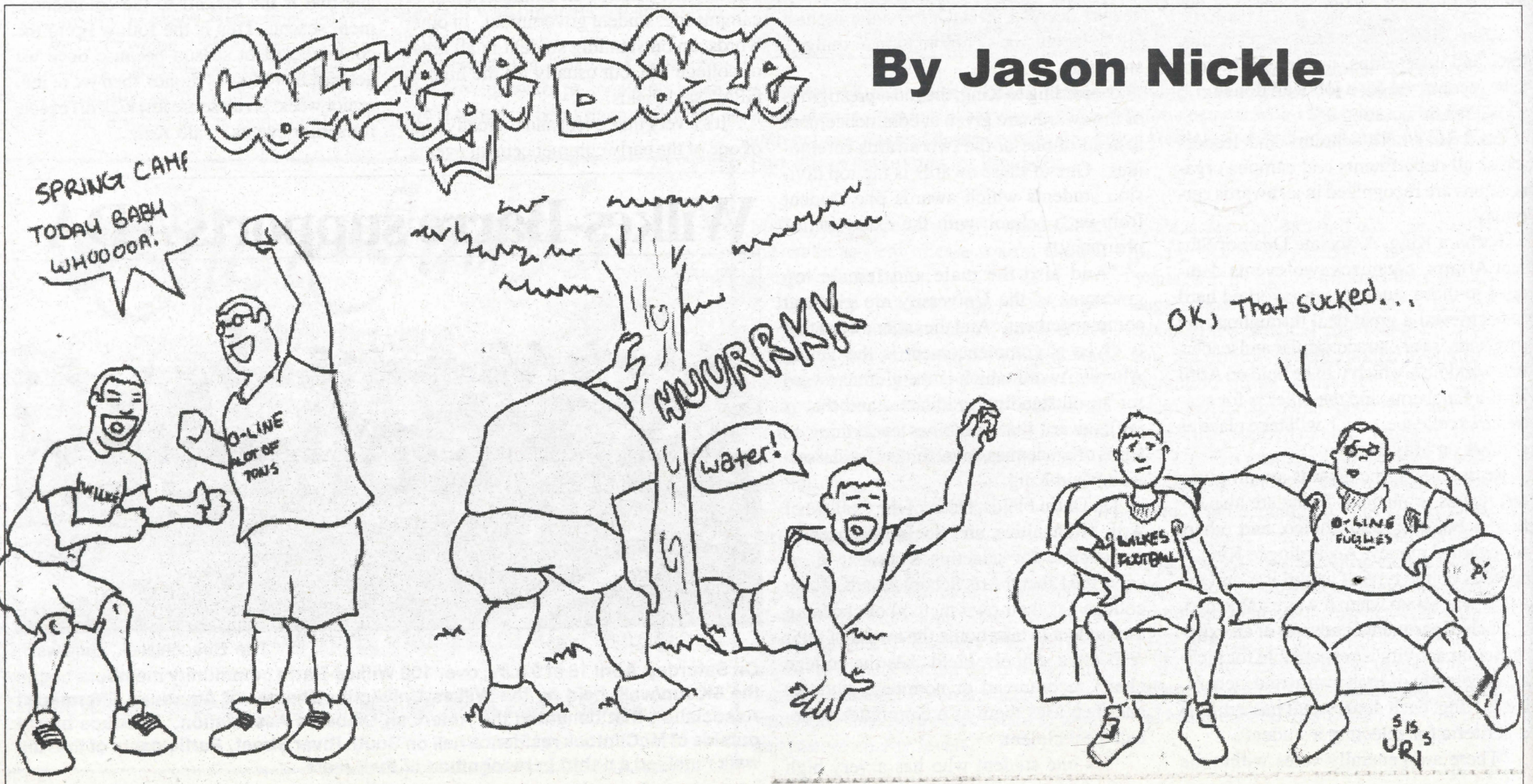
Beacon: What are you reading at the moment?

Parini: I'm reading a book about the last years of the great French writer, Voltaire.

Beacon: What advice would you give aspiring writers?

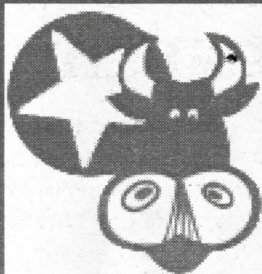
Parini: Read, read, and then read. Also, write, write, and then write.

Parini is the Axinn Professor of English at Middlebury College in Vermont where he currently resides with his wife and three sons.



By Jason Nickle

Beacon Horoscopes: What's in your stars?



Happy Birthday, Taurus!

Taurus (April 20-May 20): You may feel that the wild child in you is dying to get out and bust a move, but soon, that will lose its appeal. You'll want to be with those you love, so grab a friend and just relax. Lucky numbers: 3, 44, 46

Famous Taureans: Carmen Electra, April 20, 1972; Jay Leno, April 28, 1950; George Clooney, May 6, 1961; Janet Jackson, May 16, 1966

Love Match: Cancer-Good partnership. You will enhance one another. You offer the crab the necessary security and, in return, you receive the affection and loyalty you desire.

Love Clash: Aquarius-You are both fixed signs with a totally different concept of life. The Water-bearer is too much of a loner and you always want to own or possess your partner.

Information courtesy of <http://www.astroadvice.com>

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Gemini (May 21-June 21): Now is your time to get out and flap your social butterfly wings. Accept any and every invitation; you never know who is out there. Someone in particular will catch your attention over the course of your escapades. Lucky numbers: 6, 18, 19



Cancer (June 22-July 22): Secrets can be fun, but in your case, keeping it all in is bringing you down. Don't be afraid to sit down with someone and talk things out. If you don't, it will be a constant weight on your mind. Lucky numbers: 16, 23, 29



Leo (July 23-August 22): Conversation has been wonderful lately. You are finding people who you can connect with on the level you're looking for. Take advantage of this time and enjoy the company of these people. Lucky numbers: 10, 11, 24



Virgo (August 23-September 22): Don't be afraid to take a weekend and travel around to wherever your car may lead you. Your travels will help you discover a part of yourself and possibly give you a chance to reconnect with others. Lucky numbers: 1, 15, 19



Libra (September 23-October 23): This time may seem stressful for you, but remember: it won't last forever. The work now makes the relaxation later so much sweeter, so crack down and get it done. Lucky numbers: 4, 13, 22



Scorpio (October 24-November 21): You've got to look out for yourself during the next month. It's probably best to avoid any kind of partnerships; it could result in a loss of money that you can't afford to waste. Lucky numbers: 2, 28, 41



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21): Although social situations are not normally a problem for you, it may be a little different now. Try to overcome your shyness around people, or wait it out and use this as a chance to have some alone time. Lucky numbers: 12, 21, 32



Capricorn (December 22-January 19): Get outside and go for a walk. The fresh air will be good for you, and you may just meet some fun people. Use any chance you get to enjoy the sun. Lucky numbers: 7, 17, 35



Aquarius (January 20-February 18): Be open and frank with people, but remember that the truth can be hard to hear sometimes. Realize that you have to consider people's feelings before "helping" them by telling them the truth, and be careful how you word things. Lucky numbers: 14, 26, 31



Pisces (February 19-March 20): You're feeling great about yourself, and rightfully so! Strut your stuff, and enjoy the attention. Someone special may have their eye on you, so keep smiling and make them wonder what you're smiling about. Lucky numbers: 8, 45, 53



Aries (March 21-April 19): Your skin is usually quite thick, but lately things have been getting to you a bit more. Wait it out... you will return to your previous unshakable state. In the meantime, try to avoid any romance movies and anything else that may cue the waterworks. Lucky numbers: 5, 9, 27

These horoscopes are for entertainment purposes only

The past meets the present at Sordoni exhibit

BY MYLES RUMBEL
Beacon Staff Writer

The "Then As Now" exhibit at the Sordoni Art Gallery, brings together a goddess, a hermaphrodite, and a holy child together all in the name of art.

Scantly clothed people, body piercings, black lights, neon pants - is this a rave or an art exhibit? Such a question is what the "Then As Now" exhibit sets out to inspire.

Upon entering the Sordoni Art Gallery, one comes face to face with the centerpiece of the show, *At Mother* by Steven Assael. *At Mother* uses oil paints on canvas as well as steel and wood panel to create the scene. As the "Then As Now" catalogue essay written by Ron Bernier states, "Assael's *dramatis personae* are from the contemporary underground world of 'Goths', pierced, tattooed, and leathered, characters with a visceral edge..."

Figures in the work surround something that looks like a religious alterpiece as seen during Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque eras.

According to Karen Evans Kaufman, assistant director of the Sordoni Art Gallery, that was the point. "The premise of this show, 'Then As Now' mail refers to the past," she said. "We were going to look at artists who, through their work, refer to the old masters in their pieces."

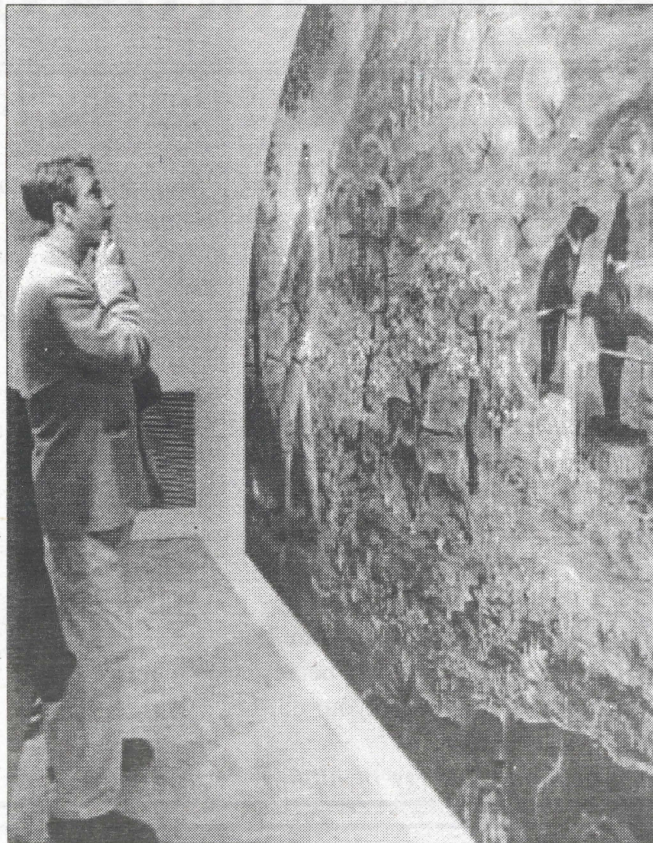
Kaufman also commented, "What we are looking at [with regard to the works] is contemporary realism with a focus on the figurative." Each work has at least one figure in it. The artists are representing the past by using a contemporary form. By re-presenting the past, artists are not copying works, but creating new works while using the skills and techniques of past eras."

The exhibit is particularly

special for one of the artists. Wilkes University's Associate Professor of Art Sharon Bowar is among the artists displayed in the exhibit. As Bowar explains, "This is a very special show for me because most of the artists are very well established, exhibiting in New York City. It's a caliber of art that it is an honor to be with," she said.

Bowar's work that is a part of this exhibit is entitled *Santa Lucia* based on St. Lucy, the patron saint of the blind. Her work was based on a traditional religious figure (in St. Lucy) and modified to an extent. Bowar previously had a solo show at the Sordoni in 2001.

The "Then As Now" exhibit took over two years to put together and the idea came from an essay written by Ron Bernier, the director of the Sordoni Art Gallery. The exhibit will be running until May 22.



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski
Sophomore Peter Swift ponders over one of the works currently featured in the Sordoni Art Gallery exhibit, "Then As Now."

CD Review... *The Sights*

BY KRISTEN LUCZAK
Beacon Staff Writer

The Sights are a great example of a band that just doesn't care. They play what they want to play, even if it is the crazy fusion of three sounds that normally don't belong on the same record, let alone the same track.

The band's website, www.wearethesights.com, reveals that the summer of 1998 was what brought together the totally distinct yet oddly appealing musical talents of three high school friends from Detroit; Eddie Baranek (vocals/guitar), Mike Trombley (drums), and Bobby Emmett (bass/organs/vocals) formed The Sights.

The Sights have had quite a journey over the past seven years. With a total of four albums already under their

belts, they released their fifth self-titled album *The Sights* last month out on New Line Records. The Detroit-based trio creates a beautifully psychedelic sound by combining garage rock, pop, and a little Motown. The use of a rhythm organ, strong lead vocals, and catchy lyrics really draws you in. The album is delightful and ridiculously addictive; if you're a fan of The Bloody Hollies, The Datsuns, The Hiss, or The Mooney Suzuki then you'll like these guys.

According to a recent *Rolling Stone* review, "Guitarist Eddie Baranek sings like he has a good case of Badfinger and writes with the R&B concision of '65 Motown, while the pools of mellotron and circus organ carry the '68 stamp of the day-



Photo courtesy of www.newlinerecords.com

Members of The Sights are, from left, Eddie Baranek, Bobby Emmett, and Mike Trombley. They are currently touring in the western United States and Canada.

glo Pretty Things and Michigan's own forgotten SRC."

The Sights isn't necessarily an album that I would run and blow my whole paycheck on. (and it really would be my whole paycheck-can you say waitress!) However, I would recommend downloading a

few tracks. I suggest checking out "Circus," which has a toe tappin' beat to it and ridiculous lead guitar that is comparable to classic Stones, and "Backseat," which is a little reminiscent of Beatle-esque organs, Ike and Tina soul, and completely clap-able harmonies.

The band has the ability to freakishly blend three genres of music that definitely don't seem like they'd mix. Seriously though, it's very impressive-garage rock, Motown, and 60's pop that have been combined into music consisting of equal parts of classic and catchy.

Searching for Angela Shelton

filmmaker visits Wilkes in honor of Sexual Assault Awareness Month

BY SARAH HERBERT
Beacon Asst. A&E Editor

One in four girls will be sexually assaulted by the age of 18.

That is one of the statistics printed in the Victim's Resource Center's newsletter commemorating Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM), April.

As part of their observation of SAAM, the center is bringing filmmaker Angela Shelton to town to talk about her new film and her experience with sexual abuse.

"In all probability you know someone who was sexually abused," writes Angela Shelton on the website for her new documentary, *Searching for Angela Shelton*. The film looks

at women, all named Angela Shelton, who have had experiences with domestic violence. Of the 40 women she found with the name, 24 were victims of sexual assault.

Shelton will visit Wilkes University on April 20 to talk about the documentary and her experience with domestic abuse. In creating the documentary, Shelton realized that she was not alone in her suffering. Women all over the country shared many of the same experiences, as well as her name.

Director of Residence Life

said, "She did this documentary with all

Gretchen Yeninas, organizer of the event

these women talking about how they've healed, and the positive things in their lives now and what it took for them to heal and how they've moved forward."

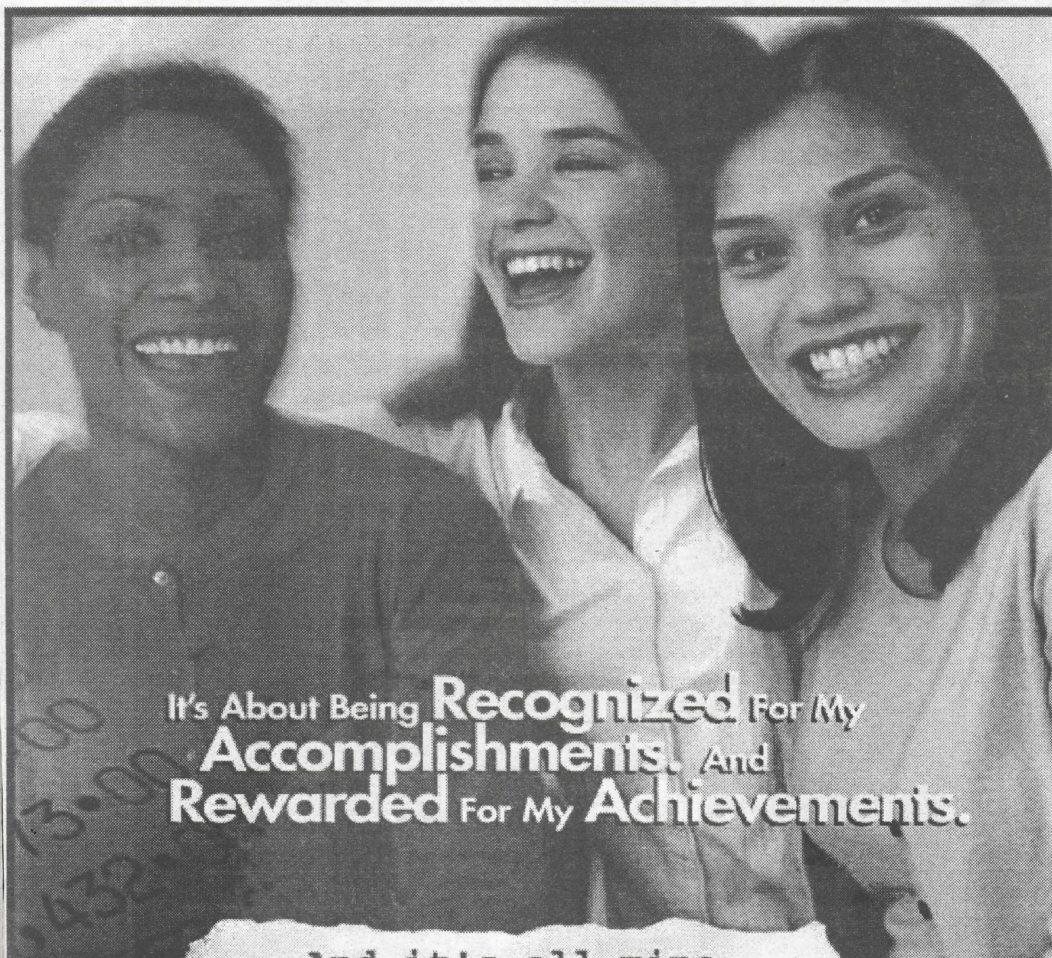
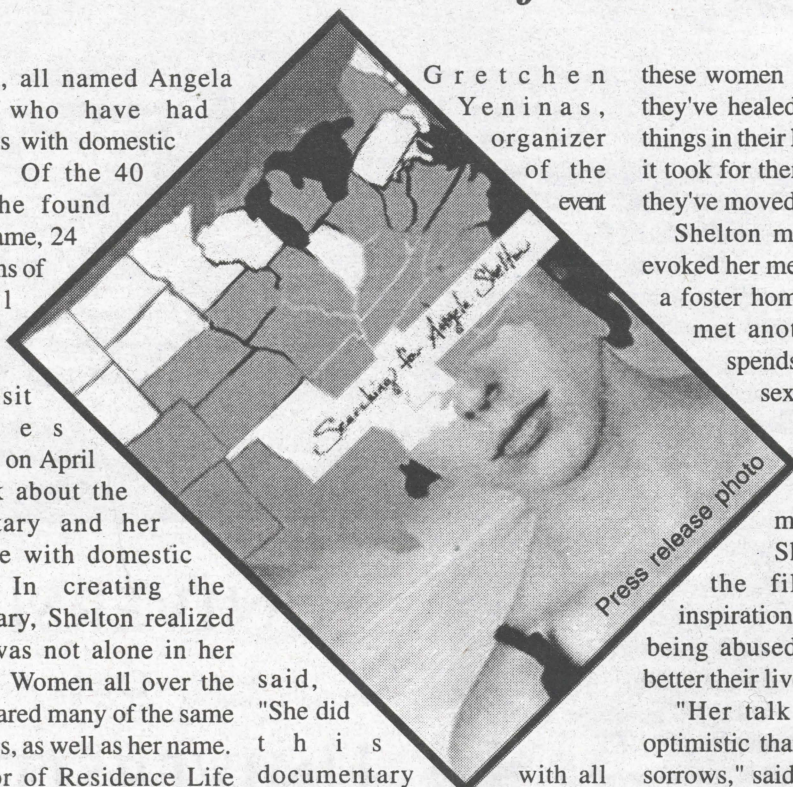
Shelton met a woman who evoked her memories of being in a foster home as a child. She met another woman who spends her time tracking sexual predators in the town where Shelton lived when her father molested her.

Shelton hopes that the film will be an inspiration to women who are being abused to move on and better their lives.

"Her talk is a little more optimistic than drowning in her sorrows," said Yeninas.

Since the making of the film, Shelton has initiated the Angela Shelton Foundation. According to Shelton's website, the foundation is "dedicated to supporting the healing of trauma survivors and bringing public awareness about sex abuse and violence against individuals by creating media and artistic projects that inform and bond policy makers, organizations, families and survivors all over the world."

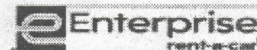
Shelton will be on campus on Wednesday, April 20 at 7 p.m. in the Henry Student Center's Miller Conference Room, and is free to the public. For more information about the documentary *Searching for Angela Shelton*, or Shelton's work with sexual assault victims, visit Shelton's website, www.anglashelton.com



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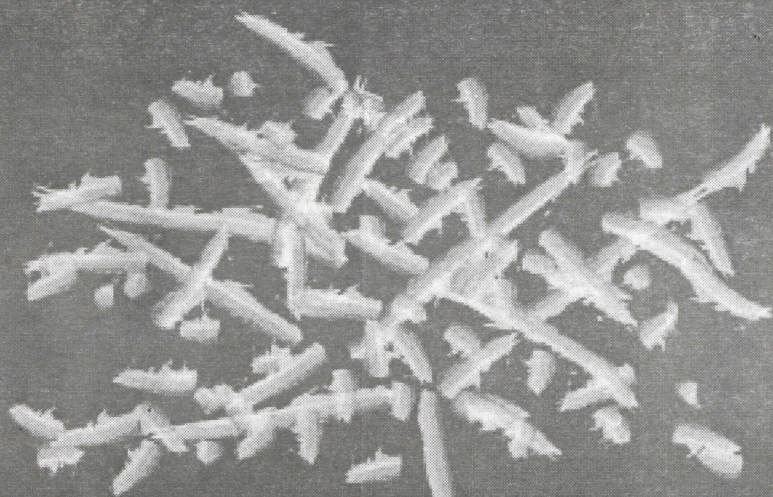
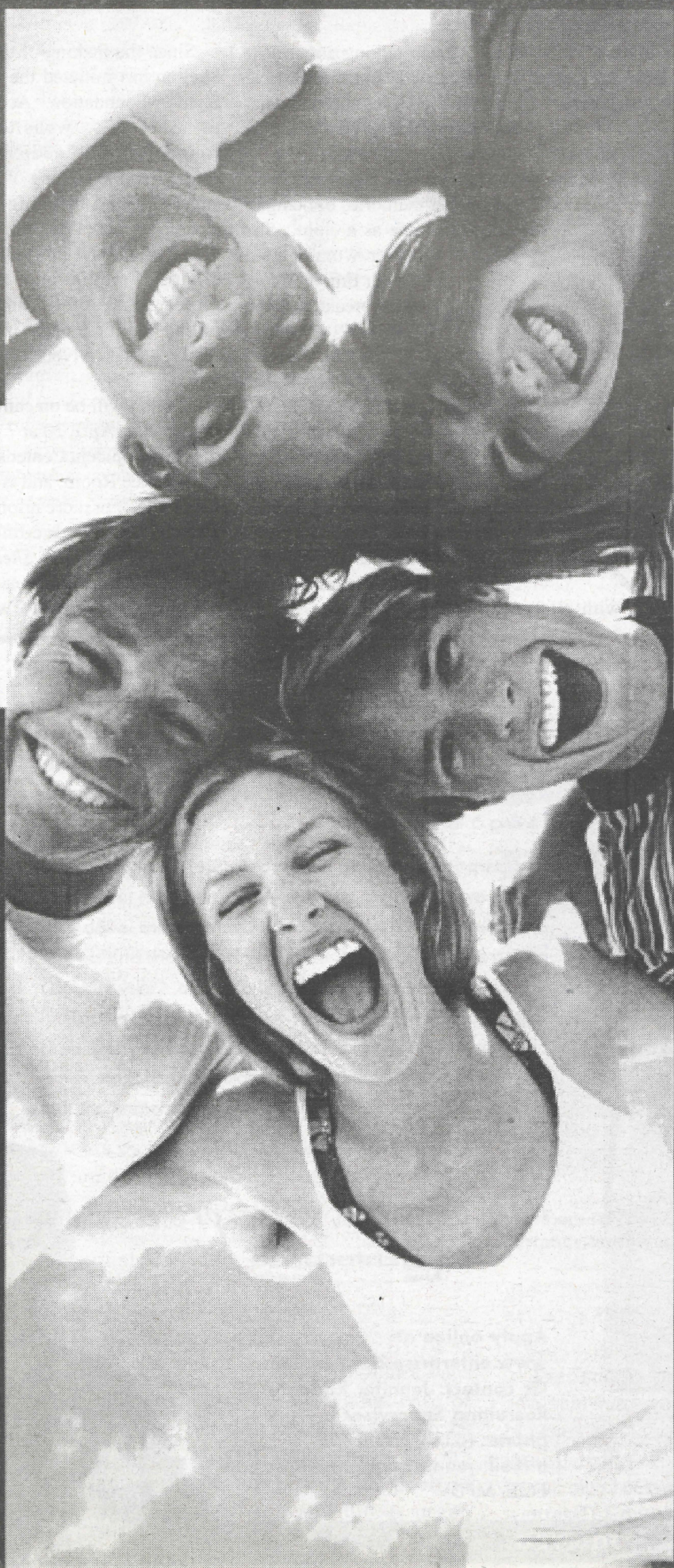


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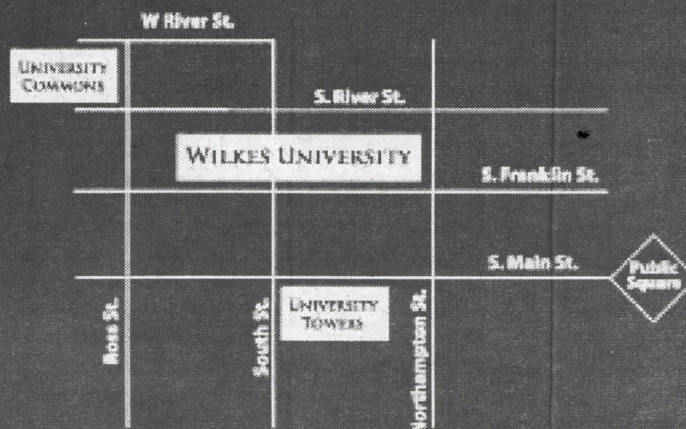
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BY RYAN D
Beacon Staff

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"It's really said Philip I Developme is...about a Lehigh river

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BY ARIELA
Beacon Cor

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Daring students jumping on "extreme" sports options

BY RYAN DIPPRE
Beacon Staff Writer

Anyone needing splendor of nature while either working up a sweat or fighting off a panic attack should seek out the Student Development office as soon as possible.

The office is sponsoring three extreme sports events, the first of which just took place on Saturday. Although the title "extreme" may have been a bit of a stretch for Saturday's mountain biking excursion.

"It's really not extreme mountain biking," said Philip Ruthkosky, Director of Student Development. "The course at Jim Thorpe is about a two hour trip that follows the high river."

The trip is of interest to both mountain biking experts and novices. "I've been doing mountain biking for a while," said senior Jared Seiders, one of the students who went on the biking trip. Seiders, a biology major, decided to sign up when Ruthkosky told him about it. "It's...a lot of fun," he said.

Both transportation and bike rentals were covered for the students, and as of Thursday morning, Ruthkosky was expecting "about five to ten people" to hit the trails, although there was no cap on attendance.

The same cannot be said for the other two extreme sports, white water rafting and skydiving. Both have limited spaces available.

"It's pretty funny that so few people are signing up for mountain biking, where we can bring an unlimited amount of people," said Ruthkosky, "and we have so many people signed up for things like white water rafting and skydiving, where the spots are limited."

Sign-ups for the two other extreme sports have far exceeded the available slots. White water rafting had 18 available slots and 30 students have already signed up for the May 24 event (weather permitting).

But skydiving has by far the longest waiting list, with 90 people willing to take the mere ten slots available on the plane.

The Student Development office is offering both opportunities at exceptional discounts; skydiving, which normally costs almost \$200 for a jump, will cost only \$50 through the Student Development program.

Judging by the numbers of students indicating interest, Student Development organizers' inclusion of extreme sports has been a smash hit on campus. Motivated by the desire for "a lot of fun," or maybe the need to test their fortitude, over 100 students will be hoping for a place in an extreme sport environment.

Whether it be riding through the wilderness, careening down a river, or jumping out of a perfectly good airplane, many Wilkes students seem ready for an adrenaline rush with Mother Nature in the background.

For Philip Ruthkosky and the rest of the Student Development staff, the question is no longer, "How can we attract the students?" but, "How can we accommodate

the wishes of so many students?" For both the students and the Student Development staff, it is an undoubtedly much better situation to have.



Graphic by Gabe LeDonne

Student Development is sponsoring a series of extreme sports activities. Last week, students participated in mountain biking in Jim Thorpe. Upcoming events include white water rafting and sky diving.

Kappa Psi plans tournament

BY ARIEL COHEN
Beacon Correspondent

As the newly minted cliché from the movie goes, "If you can dodge a wrench, you can dodge a ball." This kind of fun and games is exactly what the pharmaceutical fraternity, Kappa Psi is looking for as it hosts its first ever Kappa Psi dodgeball tournament this coming Thursday, April 21 from 7-9 p.m.

"Coming together for a fun event is what we want for our fraternity and the rest of the school," said Adam Davies, organizer of the event.

The dodgeball tournament is the first in Wilkes University's Kappa Psi's history and is open to all students. Organizers note that the tournament is just a way for students to get together to have some fun but at the same time help raise funds for Kappa Psi and local charities.

Kappa Psi is the oldest and largest inter-

national pharmaceutical fraternity in the world. The frat is found in over 90 percent of pharmacy schools in this country and was designed to bring pharmacy students together to perform community service, pharmacy outreach, and generally to bond as pharmacy majors.

With all of the service that the frat has done in this area, the fraternity as a whole has honored Wilkes University's chapter. "Our chapter has been ranked in the top five for the past five years," stated Dr. Maize, the faculty advisor for the fraternity.

The tournament will take place in the multi-purpose room in the Marts Gymnasium. Teams could consist of six players. Entry fee is \$12 per team. A sign-up sheet is available outside of the pharmacy information center, first floor, Stark Learning Center.

For more information, contact Adam Davies at daviesab@wilkes.edu.

Greenway "Sports"



The Beacon/Nick Zmijewski

Josh Clark swings at a pitch thrown by Mike Scatton as Julie Gilbert and John Boylan look on. Since the warm weather broke, the Greenway has been bustling with all kinds of activities from frisbee to wiffle ball.

The end is only the beginning. . .

Athletes begin spring training programs for fall sports

BY LINDSEY WOTANIS
Beacon Managing Editor

While most students are looking forward to wrapping up the semester, many student athletes are already looking ahead to the fall semester.

Football, soccer, and even some basketball athletes are in the midst of spring training in preparation for next semester competition. According to head football coach Frank Sheptock, the football players began their sixteen days of spring training two weeks ago. Under Division III rules, football teams are only allowed a sixteen-day window in which to prepare, as a team, for the fall. This year, unlike years past, the teams are allowed to incorporate a ball.

"Two years ago, we were just able to basically condition the kids. There were no football skills involved . . . last year we were able to do some position specific drills and techniques . . . this year, we could actually incorporate a ball," said Sheptock.

In addition to the approximately hour and a half football players spend on the field, coach Keith Klahold, fitness facilities coordinator, puts together one-hour off-season strength and conditioning programs to help the players get back into shape as they begin their individual summer programs. Division III rules also say that coaches cannot require organized practices or regimented workouts, so any training or actually playing that athletes do in the summer months must come from self-discipline and the desire to improve their own game.

"Even though we can't do that [require a workout], I have to say that we get very good attendance [in the fitness center]," said Klahold. Klahold added that every off season, players are "tested" to see what areas they need to be focusing on, not only to improve performance, but also to prevent injuries. Tested areas include bench press, squat, vertical leap, pull-ups, hang clean, and in addition for the women, hamstring/quad ratio, which helps insure the prevention of ACL injuries.

"The off season is what makes or breaks a team," said Briana Bertoni, freshman biochemistry major and returning soccer player. "Off season preparation improves a team and leaves them confident and ready to play with the beginning of regular season."

Coach John Sumoski, head women's soccer coach, is also working with his play-



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

The defensive ends practice form tackle one afternoon. The football team and soccer teams are training in preparation for fall sports as the spring semester rapidly comes to a close.

ers in preparation for the summer and fall. The team does a lot of fitness and technique training, usually beginning at 6 a.m. "[Training is] really trying to get a team ready to play for play day, which is April 30, that will look very similar to the team we're going to put on the field in the fall." The team will play in a twelve-team tournament in Lebanon Valley in just two weeks.

Football, on the other hand, is not allowed to play scrimmage games during its 16-day stint of spring preparation. However, players know that the work they are doing now, though difficult, will prepare them for next year. "I was kind of dying the first couple of days," said Bryan Vivaldo, sophomore accounting major and returning football player. "But it gets you ready for your summer workout. It provides a good base," he said.

"This is a very valuable time for a lot of our players because as we graduate Brett Trichilo, Kyle Gallagher, Jonathon Jamison and Julian Morales--a great group of kids--those kids [returning players] are excited about being out there because they know it is an opportunity for them [to prove themselves]," said Sheptock.

Sheptock is optimistic about next year's football team and predicts a successful season. "I think early we are going to have a little bit of transition. We're going to be a little young on offense; there is no doubt

about that . . . I think early on the defense might have to carry us a little bit," said Sheptock. "We expect to be very competitive, and we're very optimistic."

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COLONEL'S CLIPBOARD

19

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Tennis: Hassan Shah and Madhan Srinivassan

BY NEAL SANTOSKI AND KRISTIN KILE
Beacon Staff Writer and Beacon News Editor

The Wilkes University men's tennis team currently ranks number one in the Freedom Conference standings, and two key leaders on the courts make the Colonels' dominance unsurprising.

This season Madhan Srinivasan remains undefeated at 15-0 while Hassan Shah is 13-1, his only loss to a King's College player who is a Division I transfer student. Srinivasan and Shah are both seniors in biology at Wilkes.

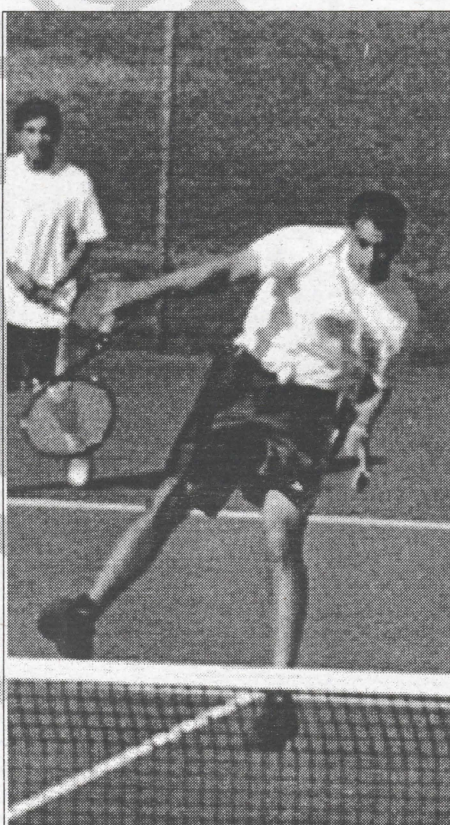
This past week saw Srinivasan and Shah continue to power their way to the top of the tennis standings as Wilkes confronted Moravian College Friday afternoon.

In doubles Srinivasan and John Lowe bested Moravian's team of Neil Caniga and Mike Helmuth 8-3. Shah and Josh Gardner followed that up with an 8-1 win over Moravian's Scott Shelbo and Sean Lynch.

But as the dynamic duo of Wilkes tennis have demonstrated over and over, this was just the beginning. In singles, both Shah and Srinivasan again topped their opponents easily.

Both Srinivasan and Shah have a long, storied history with the court. Accordingly, each athlete has earned his share of awards. In high school, Srinivasan was state doubles runner-up twice and league MVP in 2001. While at Wilkes, he received first-team all conference and player of the week for the Mid Atlantic Conference (MAC) each twice. In 2003, Srinivasan and Shah battled it out at the MAC individual tournament finals. Shah ended up taking the title that year.

Shah also has a long list of awards, in-



Hassan Shah (left) is smashing an overhead to an opponent. Madhan Srinivassan (right) returns a serve. Both players have dominating serves. Srinivassan has a powerful serve, with his fastest clocking in at 130 mph, while Hassan has a kick serve, known to throw the opponent off.

cluding two state doubles championships while in high school. At Wilkes he was rookie of the year, player of the year in 2003 and all-conference two years. Shah said his most memorable accomplishment in tennis was when he partnered up with his brother to take the state title.

"It was meaningful for the family. I don't



The Beacon/Todd Weibel

think any two brothers have done that before," Shah said.

Both players have a consistent game, but one aspect of their respective games that has made them such powerhouses on the court is the serve. Srinivasan has clocked serves in the 130 miles per hour range and Shah said back in his prime his

fastest serve was 126 miles per hour. Now, Shah goes for the kick serve. This type of serve is when the ball hits the court and bounces up higher than expected, making it a difficult serve for the opponent.

"Mahdan has a powerful first serve that can help him," said Chris Leicht, head coach of Wilkes men's tennis team. "On his second serve [Srinivasan] has a power spin. [Shah] has so much spin on his first serve that it puts the opponents on defense," he added.

Leicht noted that such initial contact with the ball sets up the rest of the game. When it hits the ground the ball could go anywhere and keep the person guessing.

"We're all playing well and we're beating teams handily. The whole season's a highlight I guess," Srinivasan said.

The Colonels' toughest match of the season was yesterday against Drew University, the reigning MAC champion. The team lost 2-5.

Both Srinivasan and Shah have high hopes for the rest of the season. "Hopefully we stay undefeated for the spring. And hopefully...bring home as many individual and doubles championships our team can do, as well as the team championship," Shah said.

Leicht said replacing both four-year starters is going to be difficult. They have been a crucial part of the team since their freshman year.

"It's going to be tough. Definitely going to have to kind of rebuild a little bit. Try to bring in some new people, but I expect the other guys on the team to step up a little bit, too, next year. But it will be tough. It's a huge loss. They're two of the best players in the conference," Leicht said.

SPORTS WEEK RECAP

BASEBALL

(4/10) Wilkes 8 Scranton 5 (13 Inn.)
Wilkes 10 Scranton 4
Wilkes 12 Scranton 8
(4/12) Wilkes 11 Susquehanna 11 (12 Inn.)
(4/13) Wilkes 16 Misericordia 5
(4/15) DeSales 10 Wilkes 1
(4/16) DeSales 7 Wilkes 1
Wilkes 6 DeSales 2

LACROSSE

(4/13) Scranton 22 Wilkes 3

GOLF

(4/14) Wilkes 331 Baptist Bible 377
(at Wilkes-Barre Golf Club, Par 72)

SOFTBALL

(4/10) Susquehanna 3 Wilkes 1
Wilkes 1 Susquehanna 0
(4/12) Wilkes 9 Scranton 0 (5 Inn.)
Wilkes 4 Scranton 1 (8 Inn.)
(4/16) Wilkes 8 Keystone 0 (5 Inn.)
Wilkes 8 Keystone 2

MEN'S TENNIS

(4/10) Wilkes 4 Muhlenberg 3
(4/12) Wilkes 6 DeSales 1
(4/13) Wilkes 5 Keystone 2
(4/14) Wilkes 6 FDU-Florham 1
(4/15) Wilkes 7 Moravian 0

NUMBERS OF THE WEEK

2 Number of sets it took for Hassan Shah to dispose of Moravian's Neil Caniga

8 Runs scored in the 7th inning by Colonel's baseball team against Misericordia

14 Number of strikeouts Lori Agresti is averaging per game this season

78 Score shot by Carmen Winters in the Wilkes golf match against Baptist Bible, 6 over par

Golf teeing off with hope of successful season

BY RICH HANNICK
Beacon Staff Writer

Birdies, eagles, or even the rare hole-in-one are all things this year's golf team would love to see from their returning starters and role players.

After a disappointing end to its season last year, the Wilkes University golf team has high expectations this spring. There are several seniors and juniors with match experience coming back from last year, but the key factor in the success of the golf team will depend on how much the freshmen, sophomores, and role players step up in match play. Tom Reynolds, a senior communication studies major, felt the same way about the freshmen and sophomores. "I think we have a good nucleus of freshmen and sophomores."

As is the case for all sports played at Wilkes, the golf team always circles the big match-up with cross-town rival King's Col-

lege. "Obviously our biggest rival is King's...we also play several matches against University of Scranton and College Misericordia," said junior biology major Chris Yonki.

According to Yonki, the team's main goal this year is to finish higher than last year. "The end of last year was very disappointing and this year's squad should be hungry so that we don't have a repeat of last year," said Yonki.

The team is very confident for the future because there are rumors circulating that, just like basketball, golf is going to split up into two conferences, the Freedom and the Commonwealth. If this did occur perennial powerhouses like Susquehanna and Moravian would not be in Wilkes' conference.

The team will tee off against Kings, The University of Scranton, and Misericordia this Tuesday at home starting at 1 p.m.



The Beacon/Gabe LeDonne

Matt Gilver (left), sophomore history major looks on as teammate Adam Bachman (right), freshman pre-pharmacy major knocks on in during opening Thursday's golf match against Baptist Bible.

Campus Calendar

MONDAY (4/18)

- *Health Services Lunch & Learn, 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. HSC Miller Conf. Rm.; free
- *Softball @ Marywood 3 p.m.
- *Film | "A Night at the Opera" sponsored by Comm. Studies Dept. 6 p.m. HSC Ballroom; free
- *Lacrosse @ Misericordia 7 p.m.
- *Reading | Jay Parini, Scranton native reads from *The Art of Subtraction: New and Selected Poems* 7:30 p.m. Kirby Hall

TUESDAY (4/19)

- *Golf w/Lycoming 1 p.m. Huntsville Golf Club
- *Tennis @ Scranton 3:30 p.m.
- *Percussion Ensemble Concert 8 p.m. Darte Center

WEDNESDAY (4/20)

- *Senior Salute 1 p.m. - 7 p.m. HSC Ballroom; allow 1 hour
- *Golf @ Scranton 1 p.m. Glenmaura
- *Baseball @ Misericordia 3:30 p.m.
- *Lacrosse w/King's 4 p.m.
- *Lecture | Dr. Jack Lawler 5 p.m. SLC 359; free
- *Student Government Meeting 5:15 p.m. Marts 214 -- Exec Board Nominations (in-house)
- *Lecture | Activist Angela Shelton 7 p.m. HSC Miller Conf. Rm.; free

THURSDAY (4/21)

- *SG Presidential Elections -- Check Wilkes and vote
- *Senior Salute 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. HSC Ballroom
- *Softball @ Lebanon Valley 3:30 p.m.

FRIDAY (4/22)

- *SG Presidential Elections -- Check email and vote
- *Baseball w/Drew 3:30 p.m.
- *Recital | senior Jessica Unice 7 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, S. Franklin St.; free
- *O.A.R. Concert 8 p.m. Kingston Armory, Market St.; \$15/student

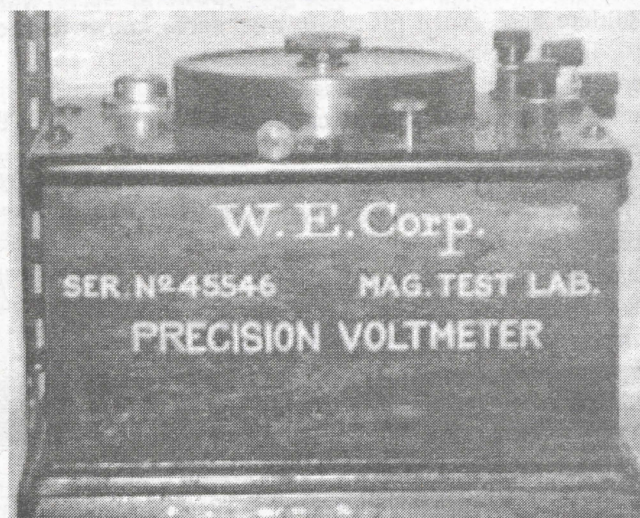
SATURDAY (4/23)

- *Lacrosse @ Elizabethtown 11:30 p.m.
- *Block Party on the Greenway 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.; free, food tickets available
- *Baseball @ Drew 1 p.m.

SUNDAY (4/24)

- *White-water Rafting Adventure (all day) \$10; contact Student Development
- *Softball w/Elizabethtown 1 p.m.
- *Civic Band Concert 3 p.m. Darte Center; free
- *Recital | junior Christopher Lucas 7 p.m. Darte Center lobby; free

Find this Picture on Campus and... WIN CASH!



This photo was taken somewhere on Wilkes University's Campus. When you find it, email us the answer at: wilkesbeacon@hotmail.com. Be sure to put "Campus Picture" as the subject heading, as well as your name, phone number, and either campus mailbox or mailing address in the body text. A random winner will be picked from the correct responses and will receive a \$10 cash prize, courtesy of Programming Board.

Congratulations to Christine Corser, who correctly identified last week's campus picture, which depicted a light fixture on the back of the Annette Evans Alumni House.

Post your event on the Campus Calendar
E-mail it to us at wilkesbeacon@hotmail.com, with the subject heading "Calendar Event"